



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab Foreign Ministers Conclude League Meeting

Ministers Issue Recommendations

NC2109141195 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1230 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 21 Sep (MENA)—At the end of their 104th session, the Arab foreign ministers reiterated the need to continue the peace process on the basis of the legal international resolutions and the principle of land for peace. The ministers denounced Israel's measures, particularly the repeated siege of Gaza and the West Bank, as well as the continued detention of Palestinians. They demanded firm confrontation of the acts of violence and provocation carried out by settlers in the occupied territories, acts that constitute a real threat to the peace process. The conferees cautioned against the serious repercussions resulting from Israel's procrastination in honoring its commitments under the Palestinian-Israeli Declaration of Principles [DOP] and its failure to meet the deadlines for implementing the second stage of the self-rule agreement.

The Arab foreign ministers urged the co-sponsors of the peace process to quickly intervene to bring the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations out of their stalemate and compel Israel to implement the provisions of the UN resolutions, the DOP, and the Cairo Agreement. They pointed out that Israel's continued ignoring of its commitments is bound to create obstacles for the peace process and place the region in a real danger.

The Arab foreign ministers emphasized that Jerusalem is an Arab city over which Palestinian sovereignty must be restored as the capital of the Palestinian state. They denounced the Israeli measures against the city and the expropriation of land there and urged the world community to put pressure on Israel so as not to change the status quo in the city, to comply with the legal international resolutions, and not to make any changes to the demographic makeup and the geographic features of the city.

In their recommendations, the Arab foreign ministers denounced the ceremony that Israel intends to hold to mark what it calls the third millennia since David — may peace be upon him — adopted Jerusalem as his capital. This is a forgery of the history of the holy city, which the Arabs ruled for 13 centuries. They demanded an answer to these fabrications both by the media and at the political level. The ministers stressed the need to initiate political and media campaigns with the world's influential states to explain the negative impact on the peace process of the expropriation of land for settlement-building and general purposes. They called

on the co-sponsors of the peace process to act according to the principles and bases agreed upon in the DOP to stop Israel from continuing its settlement activity, urge it to abide by the UN resolutions that call for halting the construction of settlements and disbanding the existing ones, and to honor its promises.

The ministers commended the efforts made by the Arab League Secretariat with the concerned Palestinian and international authorities to coordinate and support the construction and development process in Palestine, reach an initial agreement on coordination and cooperation with the Palestinian Development and Reconstruction Council, and call on the donor states to fulfill their promises. The ministers underlined the need for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency [UNRWA] to continue its work with the Palestinian refugees until the Palestinian problem is resolved. They urged the countries that host Palestinians and the Arab countries in general to provide funds for the UNRWA and take the necessary measures to overcome its budget deficit.

In discussions on following up developments in the Palestinian intifadah, the ministers stressed the need to extend backing to the Palestinian people at all levels until they are able to terminate the Israeli occupation, establish their independent state, and set up institutions capable of achieving socioeconomic development.

The Arab foreign ministers reiterated the Arab states' continued backing of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] and its goals and the need to ensure its universality without exceptions. They warned against the dangers resulting from the continuation of the Israeli nuclear program outside the international system of nuclear nonproliferation and Israel's refusal to join the treaty, which poses an unacceptable threat to regional security and upsets the credibility and universality of the treaty.

The conferees stressed that a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in the Middle East must be coupled with the attainment of security and stability through equitable commitments by regional parties that would turn the Middle East into a zone free of weapons of mass destruction. The ministers demanded that Israel join the NPT and place its nuclear installations under the international inspection system. They also called on the United States, Russia, and the United Kingdom, which adopted the decision to extend the validity of the NPT, as well as all other signatories to exert efforts to make Israel join the treaty. The ministers stressed the need to enable non-nuclear states to acquire nuclear technology for peaceful use according to the system of guarantees of the International Atomic Energy Agency. They also called for the need to ensure the universal application

of all the provisions related to the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons without double standards, adopt the necessary measures toward that end in accordance with Chapter Seven [not further identified], and to provide effective and comprehensive security guarantees for the non-nuclear states against the use or threats to use nuclear weapons.

The ministers assigned the competent technical committee to prepare a draft agreement for the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region to continue its work so that the draft agreement could be ready before the coming Arab League Council in March 1996.

The Arab ministers reiterated their rejection of all the measures that the Israeli occupation forces have adopted and are adopting to change the legal, natural, and demographic status in the Golan. The ministers view Israel's measures to enforce its sovereignty over the Golan as illegal, null, and void, and a violation of the international agreements and the UN and Security Council resolutions. The ministers called on the cosponsors of the peace treaty to compel Israel to fully withdraw from the occupied Golan. They also stressed the need to back Syrian citizens in the Golan and affirmed the need to apply the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 to the Golan's citizens. The ministers reiterated their support and backing for Syria's demand and right to restore the Golan in full, on the basis of the peace process and the legal international resolutions.

The Arab foreign ministers strongly denounced Israel's continued occupation of parts of southern Lebanon and Western al-Biq'a' and urged the world community to seek the implementation of Resolution 425 and the subsequent resolutions that demand Israel's immediate and unconditional withdrawal from all Lebanese territories to the international borders. The ministers also denounced Israel's repeated aggression against the Lebanese territories and urged the world community to adopt all measures to end Israel's naval blockade of Lebanese ports. They stressed the need for international parties to put pressure on Israel to provide reparations to Lebanon for the damage resulting from its repeated aggression. The ministers affirmed their support for Lebanon's measures to extend its authority and sovereignty over its entire territories. They called on the world community to adopt the necessary measures to compel Israel to release all Lebanese prisoners and kidnappers detained in Israeli jails.

The Arab foreign ministers stressed their solidarity with the Libyan Jamahiriyyah in its efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the Lockerbie problem with the United States, Britain, and France. They declared their

adherence to the Arab League Council's proposal that the suspects receive a fair trial by Scottish judges, in accordance with Scottish law, at the International Court of Justice in the Hague.

The ministers expressed regret for the continued sanctions against Libya and for the insistence of the three countries on refusing to respond favorably to international efforts aimed at solving the problem on the basis of international law and global legitimacy. They called on the seven-member Arab committee on the crisis to continue its efforts and contacts with the parties to the conflict with a view to reaching a peaceful and just solution to the crisis.

The ministers urged all Somali factions to stop the acts of violence, to settle their differences peacefully, and to work for the expeditious formation of a transitional national unity government.

The ministers entrusted the Arab League secretary general to continue holding the necessary consultations with the United Nations, the concerned international organizations, and all Somali parties to reach a political solution.

They called on the international community to continue providing humanitarian assistance to the Somali people and to help them reconstruct their country. They also called on the Arab League member states to speed up the transfer of their financial aid to the special account opened by the General Secretariat so that it can continue playing its role for the Somali people.

The Arab foreign ministers stressed their support for all peaceful means and measures taken by the United Arab Emirates [UAE] to restore its sovereignty over the three islands occupied by Iran (Tunb al-Kubra, Tunb al-Sughra, and Abu Musa) as they constitute an integral part of the UAE.

The ministers renewed their call on Iran to respond to the UAE's positive positions to solve the problem peacefully in accordance with international laws and to accept recourse to the International Court of Justice to resolve the conflict.

The ministers stressed the important role of the Arab Fund for Technical Assistance for the African Countries in supporting Arab-African cooperation. They appealed to the Arab countries to pay their contributions to the fund to meet the increasing demand for assistance by African countries.

The ministers asked the Arab League General Secretariat to coordinate the efforts of Arab delegations to the 50th session of the UN General Assembly with a

view to reaching a unified Arab position on the issues on the session's agenda.

The ministers called on the General Secretariat to continue its contacts with the European Union to activate Arab-European dialogue.

The Council referred the subject of boosting and developing the tourism sector in the Arab countries to the Economic and Social Council for speedy efforts to establish an Arab tourism union to support inter-Arab cooperation in this area.

As regards the honor charter on Arab security and cooperation, the Arab foreign ministers decided at the end of the 104th session of the Arab League Council that the members states should study the plan as well as Tunisia's proposal, presented on behalf of the Arab Maghreb Union, to establish a mechanism to prevent, manage, and resolve conflicts among the Arab countries, and present their ideas to the General Secretariat.

The ministers also decided to establish a special committee from the members states and the General Secretariat, chaired by the general secretary, to study the ideas and present them, in their final form, to the Council's next session.

As regards the draft statute of the Arab court of justice, the ministers decided to refer the plan to the standing legal committees to study the observations of the member states and to draft the court bylaws. They entrusted the General Secretariat to forward the two plans, in their final form, to the Council's next session.

Jordanian, Syrian Foreign Ministers Meet

JN2109164795 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Jordanian Foreign Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Kabariti held a meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' in Cairo today. They discussed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

Iraq's al-Sahhaf Meets Omani, Algerian Ministers

JN2109184795 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Sep 9

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf met with his Omani counterpart Yusuf Bin-'Alawi in Cairo today.

The correspondent of the Iraqi News Agency in Cairo said the talks addressed the current Arab state of affairs, issues of common interest, and ways to promote and enhance fraternal bilateral ties.

Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf explained to his colleague, Yusuf Bin-'Alawi, the developments in the relationship between Iraq and the UN Special Commission charged with dismantling Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, particularly with regard to Iraq's cooperation with the commission to address all outstanding issues.

The Iraqi minister declared that Iraq is committed to cooperation with the UN Special Commission, and that it has completed the implementation of the basic requirements, which warrants the implementation of Paragraph 22 of UN Security Council Resolution 687 as a prelude to the complete revocation of the Iraq sanctions.

The talks also addressed the topics listed on the agenda of the current session of the Arab League Council.

Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf also met with Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Salah Dembri. They discussed the current Arab state of affairs, enhanced Iraqi-Algerian ties, and the means to promote them in the interest of the two fraternal peoples and the Arab nation.

Damascus Declaration Ministers Comment

LD2109190595 Riyadh SPA in English 1228 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cairo, Sept 21, SPA — The foreign ministers of the countries of Damascus Declaration held a meeting here last night.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Al Sa'ud al-Faysal, Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sabah al-Sabah, Bahraini Foreign Minister Mohammed Bin Mubarak al-Khalifa, Qatari Foreign Minister Hamad Bin-Jasim Bin-Jabr al-Thani, UAE's Foreign Minister Rashid al-'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi, Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf Bin-'Alawi as well as 'Amr Musa and Faruq al-Shar', Egyptian and Syrian foreign ministers respectively attended the meeting.

Following the meeting Bahraini Foreign Minister Mohammed Bin Mubarak al-Khalifa said the ministers had reviewed the document of Arab solidarity and added 'some amendments were proposed on the document'.

He pointed out that the next meeting for the foreign ministers of the countries of Damascus Declaration will be held next December in Damascus after studying the proposed amendments on the document.

Al-Khalifa expressed satisfaction over the outcome of the meeting and said 'views were identical' and it is hoped that the next meeting, due to be held in Damascus will approve the document after inserting the proposed amendments.

Al-Khalifa said the ministers had exchanged views on all issues of mutual interest.

Arab League Head Views Current Session

NC2109195195 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1715 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 21 Sep (MENA)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Isma't 'Abd-al-Majid has stressed that the draft proposals to establish an Arab code of honor and an Arab court of justice were among the most important items on the agenda of the Arab League Council meeting. He pointed out that great importance is attached to the issue of the Arab code of honor. In view of this importance, the two draft proposals have been postponed until the coming council meeting for further studies, he added, noting that some member states made observations on the draft statutes of the Arab court of justice that necessitated revision, study, and scrutiny of these statutes.

Speaking at a news conference here today at the end of the session, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid answered a question on the possibility of endorsing the draft proposals by the Arab League Council or by an Arab summit. He pointed out that in view of the importance of this topic, it has been decided to postpone the matter for further study. He added: In principle, everybody emphasized that these proposals are required at this stage. He pointed out that the issue has been deferred to a future date. He noted that some legal observations had been raised, and they are important observations which we will take into consideration. He stressed that the principle of establishing an Arab court of justice had been endorsed and some points will be added to the statutes, which include approximately 30 articles.

Asked about what was achieved at the present session of the Arab League Council, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said that it was marked by calmness and objectivity and that it was a good step toward clearing the Arab atmosphere. He called on the Arab public to be self-confident and to trust that Arab leaders are aware of the changes taking place around them. He noted that differences in views may exist, but a goal is materializing; namely, emphasizing and preserving the Arab identity. He stressed that any attempt to undermine or divide the Arab nation is doomed to fail.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid noted that some Arab foreign ministers had suggested the notion of holding an Arab summit. He asked: How can an Arab summit be held now? He added that the question of the Arab court of justice and code of honor cannot wait until an Arab summit is held because circumstances now are not favorable for holding such a summit. He stressed that when the Arab

leaders want to confront a certain issue they rally together shoulder to shoulder, as was the case during the mini-summit held in Alexandria over Israel's expropriation of the Palestinian territories. As a result of this summit, the Israeli decision to seize Palestinian territories was suspended, he added.

On the differences among the Arab states regarding participation in a Middle East market, the Arab League secretary general emphasized that there is no room for fear regarding the Middle East market. He pointed out that there is awareness on the part of the Arab leaders and that the Arab League is trying to coordinate among them. He noted that if Israel wants cooperation with the Arab states it must fully withdraw from the Arab territories, fully implement all the legal international resolutions, and honor the land for peace principle.

On Tunisia's proposal to establish a mechanism for resolving disputes among Arab states and its possible contradiction with the Arab court of justice, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said that the Tunisian proposal is necessary and was welcomed. He added that the third section of the Arab code of honor includes a proposal for executive mechanisms. He noted that Tunisia is required to give details of its proposal to complete the general structure of the Arab court of justice.

Asked about the Palestinians expelled from Libya and Lebanon and Jordan's refusal to receive them, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid stressed that this issue was not on the agenda. He noted that contacts were made in this regard between Jum'ah al-Fazzani, Libyan secretary of the People's Committee for Unity, and Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO's Political Department.

On differences over the statute of the Arab court of justice, the Arab League secretary general said one of the articles of the statute stipulates that the court is authorized only in disputes between Arab countries. He said some delegations wanted the court to look into disputes not only between Arab countries but also between Arab and non-Arab countries. Other delegations objected to this, he said.

Some Arab countries agreed to, while others opposed, a proposal that the court give only an advisory opinion, he added.

He said some countries did not accept that recourse to the court be optional or that the Arab League or an Arab summit can refer countries to the court. They said this power is enjoyed by the concerned state itself. Moreover, he said, some countries considered dealing with the International Court of Justice in the Hague to be the norm.

On the Arab League's financial crisis, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said this was discussed in the meetings. He said the Arab League Council entrusted the General Secretariat to appeal to the member states that did not pay their contributions to quickly do so. He noted that some countries have accrued some \$20 million in arrears. These countries will be asked to speedily repay or reschedule this debt, he said.

On the Lockerbie crisis and what the Council did about it, the Arab League secretary general said the seven-member committee on the crisis will meet in New York on 3 October, on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly session, to coordinate Arab positions on the crisis.

He said today's Arab League Council's decision in this respect supported the position of the Arab League and the Libyan Jamahiriyah that the Libyan suspects be tried before Scottish court and judges in any country.

He said the Arab foreign ministers will meet in New York on the sidelines of the 50th UN General Assembly session to coordinate their positions on topics on the session's agenda.

Asked about the fact that delegations from more than one Gulf state met with the Iraqi delegation to the current Arab League Council session and whether there are signs of a breakthrough in the crisis, Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Mubarak, Bahraini foreign minister and chairman of the current session, said that the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] states have a clear and declared position in this respect. He noted that the Gulf summit decided that dealing with Iraq should be based on its implementation of all UN resolutions, including the one on prisoners.

He said the GCC countries support Iraq's unity and oppose its division. He expressed regret for the suffering of the Iraqi people as a result of the embargo against Iraq.

Syria's al-Shar' Comments After Meetings

JN2109205195 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2015 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Cairo—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' said the discussions and deliberations held during the Arab League Council meetings were positive, serious, and objective.

In statements to journalists after the final meeting of the Council's 104th session, al-Shar' added that the failure to make decisions on basic issues is not considered a negative aspect because conducting further studies and scrutiny will serve the nation's interest. Moreover, agreement on specific frameworks for joint Arab action

should be carefully studied, stemming from the fact that the most important thing is that Arab commitment should be secured, he said.

Regarding the Amman summit, al-Shar' said Syria has nothing to do with this summit. He pointed out that the Barcelona conference is different from the Amman summit because the framework of the Barcelona conference is a European-Mediterranean framework that has nothing to do with multilateral negotiations, whereas the Amman summit will ultimately serve the interest of Israel more than the interests of the Arab states.

Replying to a question on the coming meeting of the Damascus Declaration states, al-Shar' said: A framework paper for joint Arab action was agreed upon. A study will be conducted on this paper as well as on some amendments proposed at the meeting held on the sidelines of the Arab League Council meetings. He pointed out that the eight delegations will consult with their governments to work out their final concepts regarding the Damascus meeting scheduled for December.

Al-Shar' said: The document amending the Damascus Declaration includes economic, political, and security cooperation. When this document is approved in Damascus, it will be submitted to the Arab League, thus giving an opportunity to any party that can join, or wishes to join, this document provided that there should be commitment to the basic document of the Damascus Declaration states.

Asked whether there is any progress on the Syrian track, al-Shar' said: There has thus far been no progress on this track due to Israeli intransigence and the policy of planting mines Israel is pursuing. [passage omitted]

Algeria Tasked To Prepare Barcelona Meeting

LD2109212395 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] On the sidelines of the Arab League's ministerial conference, a coordinating meeting for the Arab countries taking part alongside the EU countries in the forthcoming Barcelona conference was held this morning at the Algerian ambassador's residence in Cairo.

Our foreign affairs minister, Mohamed Salah Dembri, presided over the meeting which was attended, in addition to the ten Arab countries' foreign affairs ministers, Mr 'Isamat 'Abd al-Majid, the Arab League secretary general.

During this meeting, Algeria was charged with putting forward the Arab points of view agreed upon at the Arab coordinating meetings to the current European

presidency, which was assumed by Spain, particularly those including participation without exclusion for the Mediterranean countries, and the Arab gatherings and organizations, such as the Arab League and the Arab Maghreb Union, in addition to the issue of political, economic and social cooperation.

Mediterranean Arabs Coordinate on Barcelona

NC2109134595 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Salah Dembri has announced that foreign ministers of the Mediterranean Arab countries have emphasized the inevitability of coordinating their positions on all issues on the table at the Mediterranean conference, scheduled to be held in Barcelona, Spain, in November. He said the Arab ministers also agreed that all Arab Mediterranean countries, as well as the Arab League and the Arab Maghreb Union, must participate in the Barcelona conference. The ministers called for establishing a mechanism to follow up what will be agreed upon in Barcelona. Foreign ministers of 10 Arab Mediterranean countries met in Cairo this morning under the Algerian foreign minister to continue consultations on this matter.

Islamic Affairs

Political Islam Review: AL-NUR 13 Sep

NC2009114395

[FBIS Editorial Report] The following is a comprehensive review of all items in the 13 September edition of the Arabic-language newspaper AL-NUR that pertain to political Islamic issues.

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9. Vatican Said Hindering Islamic Project in Balkans
10. Muslims in Brazil Considering Political Party

In a brief article on page 1, in which he points out that this is the first edition of the paper to appear since 12 April, the editor promises a more frequent appearance

of AL-NUR. He writes: "Dear AL-NUR readers: Our meeting with you is perhaps a little late this time but it is a meeting of love, brotherhood, and spiritual connection. It is as strong as usual, whether it is early or late. We miss our readers just as much as they miss us. This was proved by the hundreds of letters we received from our readers." The editor adds: "Here is AL-NUR, our love and yours, returning, gaining its strength from your support, promising that it will not stop, and carrying the glad tidings of an increase in the number of its pages [from eight to 10]."

MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD DISTORTS IMAGE OF ISLAM

The newspaper leads with a sharp attack against the Muslim Brotherhood. Under the banner headline, "The Muslim Brothers Distort the Image of Islam," the newspaper's chairman of the board, al-Hamzah Di'bis, writes an approximately 4,000-word article on pages 1 and 3. He cites excerpts from the book "Memoirs of the Call and the Preacher," which was written by Muslim Brotherhood founder Shaykh Hasan al-Banna, to support his claims against the group.

Commenting on al-Banna's remark that the Muslim Brotherhood began preaching for Islam in crowded cafes and at special meetings in houses and offices, Di'bis takes the group to task for not using the mosque as the venue. He notes that Prophet Muhammad and the Muslim caliphs after him never used any place but the mosque for preaching. Di'bis says early Muslim Brotherhood leaders, who suggested working outside the mosques, had no single religious scholar and acted according to their own thinking, not as dictated by Islamic jurisprudence. "This is not the shura that Islam has always known," he says.

Di'bis says those early Muslim Brotherhood meetings, held in a kind of hideout, were similar to secret communist meetings at the time. He suggests that people were tricked into making donations to build offices for the group. Another similarity with the communists, Di'bis says, was the organizational structure of the Muslim Brotherhood: "They established a branch in every village; all the village branches came under a central branch in the city and all the city branches came under a center for the whole governorate. The Guidance Office was like the central committee of the communist party. This is unprecedented in Islam; it is not mentioned in any texts of the Koran or the sunnah [Prophet Muhammad's tradition]."

Di'bis also dismisses the use of "brother" as a title for group members, saying it is strange for Islam, the equivalent of the word "comrade" used by the communists.

Citing accusations that the Muslim Brotherhood was involved in killing officials in the fifties, Di'bis says violence is another similarity between the group and the communists. Such violence, he says, made the West think of Islam as its new enemy after the collapse of communism. But Di'bis maintains that Islam attracts people with its peaceful, calm nature and good preaching.

AL-AZHAR TEACHERS EXCLUDED FROM PROMOTION COMMITTEES

A 100-word report by Khalid al-Shirbini on page 1 cites al-Azhar University teachers denouncing their exclusion from the academic committees formed recently by the Higher Council for Universities to decide on promotions for university teachers. They reportedly see this as "deliberate intransigence" by the education minister. They say the minister does not want al-Azhar professors to be involved in evaluating scientific research presented by university teachers for the purpose of promotion, "especially since some of this research attacks Islamic values and concepts."

AL-AZHAR FIGURE, WRITER ON 'APOSTATE' ABU-ZAYD'S AFFAIR

A 150-word report on page 1 says Dr. Mustafa al-Shak'ah, a member of al-Azhar's Islamic Research Council, has prepared three reports on three books by Dr. Nasr Abu-Zayd, who was declared an apostate by an Egyptian court. The reports are said to describe Abu-Zayd's books as strongly hostile to Islam and its precepts. In his reports, al-Shak'ah calls for banning the books and for "distancing Abu-Zayd from any cultural forum involving youth, especially universities and institutes."

An unattributed 500-word article on page 9 discusses a book by Salim 'Azuz on Abu-Zayd's case. The writer rehashes a statement in the book that Islam is the only loser in the Dr. Abu-Zayd affair. The writer concludes: "Aside from the content of this wonderful book, the author's first, we agree with him that Islam desperately needs preachers who believe in the power of the mind and use it to overcome the barriers of intellectual isolation."

ISLAM GRANTS WOMEN FULL RIGHTS; BEIJING DOCUMENT REJECTED

A 1,500-word column written by "A.A." on page 4 dismisses the Beijing women's document as a violation of Islamic shari'ah. The writer says the document calls for full equality between men and women, recognizes homosexuals, and advocates sexual freedom. He explains how Islam honored women, gave them full rights, and

banned sexual relations outside marriage. The writer calls on the Islamic delegations to the Beijing conference on women to reject anything that contradicts the principles of Islam.

COPTIC FIGURE DEFENDS ISLAMIC SHARI'AH

Page 6 contains an approximately 2,500-word interview with Dr. Edward Ghali al-Dhahabi, a prominent Coptic figure, by Ahmad 'Abd- al-Mun'im. Al-Dhahabi reiterates his views that Islam is innocent of charges of terrorism and that it protects the rights of non-Muslims in the Islamic state. He says Christians do not object to the application of Islamic shari'ah, because it is fair and supports national unity.

ISLAMIC WRITER DEFENDS MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD

Page 4 features a 1,500-word interview with "Islamic writer" Ahmad Ra'if, director of Dar al-Zahra' for Arab Media, by 'Abd-al-Rasul al-Zarqani. Asked if the Muslim Brotherhood is different from violent political groups, Ra'if says: "The differences are numerous and known to everybody. In its inclinations, the Brotherhood is totally different from the political groups that practice violence." He says the courts never proved that the group was involved in violence. He maintains that the aim of recent arrests among Muslim Brotherhood members is "to distort their image before voters so that they cannot enter the People's Assembly."

ARE RUSSIAN STUDENTS IN AL-AZHAR MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD MEMBERS?

A 150-word unattributed report on page 10 says that over 50 students from the Russian Islamic republics have sent an urgent cable to Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi and to al-Azhar Rector Shaykh Jad-al-Haqq 'Ali Jad-al-Haqq urging a swift solution to the problem of Russian students at al-Azhar colleges. The report says the humanitarian relief committee [not further identified] canceled scholarships to Russian students because of financial problems. The Russian students will return to their country if efforts by the Doctors Syndicate and other charitable societies fail. The report cites an official source at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry that the syndicate was pressured by some security quarters, which led to cutting off the monthly allowance to the students. The report ends: "The reason al-Azhar is rejecting the Russian students is that the government believes the students belong to the Muslim Brotherhood."

FORMER COMMUNIST COUNTRIES OBSTRUCT ISLAMIC WORK

A 200-word report by 'Ali Sabir on page 1 cites Dr. Mani' al-Jahni, secretary general of the International Symposium on Islamic Youth in Riyadh, saying that some governments and organizations in Central Asia and Eastern Europe have begun to restrict the activities of the Islamic organizations working in preaching and relief. He said Russia is offering every facility and help to the Islamic organizations. Al-Jahni told AL-NUR that the International Symposium on Islamic Youth has held over 100 camps in the Islamic republics and Russia since the collapse of the Soviet Union. He noted that over 1,500 Muslim youths have attended the camps, where Islamic lectures and books are provided.

VATICAN SAID HINDERING ISLAMIC PROJECT IN BALKANS

A 100-word unattributed report on page 1 claims the Vatican is trying to undermine the biggest Islamic project in the Balkans. The report says work on the biggest Islamic center to serve Muslims in the Balkans has started in the Albanian capital. The report cites Jamal al-Fawzan, a member of the center's committee, saying that the Vatican is now building a huge church only 200 meters from the center "with a view to undermining it, and it is also taking measures to obstruct the plan."

MUSLIMS IN BRAZIL CONSIDERING POLITICAL PARTY

An unattributed 150-word report on page 10 cites Ahmad al-Sayfi, director of the preaching center in Latin America, telling the newspaper that the Islamic community is now considering an Islamic party for Brazil. He notes that 70 parliament members are of Arab origin. He says the entry into parliament of the first Muslim member greatly helped Muslims in that country.

Palestinian Affairs

Al-Nashashibi Says PA To Import Iraqi Oil

JN2209084195 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
22 Sep 95 p 17

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Amman—QUDS PRESS—A prominent official in the Palestinian Authority [PA] has said that the PA will begin importing Iraqi oil through Jordan within the next three weeks.

Muhammad Zuhdi al-Nashashibi, minister of finance in the PA, said that recent talks between the PA and the U.S. Administration resulted in an initial approval by the United States to provide PA areas with Iraqi oil despite

the blanket economic embargo imposed on Iraq since August 1990. According to al-Nashashibi's statements to QUDS PRESS, the PA will begin importing Iraqi oil through Jordan within 21 days using tanker trucks as a first step until a project to install an oil pipeline between Jordan and Iraq is completed during the next stage. Al-Nashashibi revealed that there are ongoing Palestinian-Israeli talks on supplying Palestinian autonomous areas with Iraqi oil. However, he stressed that the PA is willing to import oil from other Arab markets, which he did not specify. Al-Nashashibi said that the PA is also holding consultations about obtaining natural gas from Qatar. He said that the Qatari Government informed the PA of its approval of the project, but no date has been set to begin it. [passage omitted]

UNHCR To Help Deported Palestinians Stranded on Border

JN2209083495 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic
0600 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The UN Higher Commission for Refugees [UNHCR] has decided to extend urgent food and shelter to approximately 150 Palestinians who were deported by the Libyan authorities and are now stranded at the Egyptian-Libyan border.

UNHCR sources in Cairo said that some of the refugees, including children, are in a bad state of health. Sources also said that UNHCR employees had visited all the stranded families, and they will be given tents and blankets on 24 September.

PNC Speaker Rejects Deportation Measures by Libya

TA2109160295 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic
20 Sep 95 p 11

[Special to AL-QUDS]

[FBIS Translated Text] Amman, Intermedia — Salim al-Za'nun, acting speaker of the Palestine National Council [PNC], has called for the convening of an extraordinary session of the Arab Parliamentary Union [APU] to discuss the deportation measures taken by the Libyan authorities against Palestinians residing in Libya. He said the aim of these measures is to keep the Palestinian Authority [PA] preoccupied with new problems in addition to those with which it is grappling right now in the talks, which have become more complicated because of the Hebron issue.

In an exclusive interview to AL-QUDS, al-Za'nun stressed that the next step would be to resort to the Interparliamentary Union, scheduled to convene in Bucharest on 9 October. Al-Za'nun added: I hope that

the APU will manage to stop this great crime being perpetrated against the Palestinian people and that we will not be obliged to take this step.

Al-Za'nun said the Libyan measure paves the way for foreign countries to follow the example of the Libyan authorities and expel Palestinians from their soil by using the same pretexts and justifications.

Al-Za'nun added: Another result of the Libyan measure is that Lebanon, which used to allow Palestinian refugees holding Lebanese travel documents to return to its territory, has issued new legislation that harms those who hold such documents. The Libyan measure has also encouraged certain Lebanese officials to call for the expulsion of more than 400,000 Palestinians in order to flood the PA with a new wave of refugees.

Al-Za'nun expressed regret over the fact that Libya, instead of providing financial and moral aid to the PA, is inundating it with problems. He said certain Arab hands, which are trying to create a problem for the 4 million refugees represented by the PLO, took action to cut its financial and economic resources.

In conclusion, al-Za'nun said: Perhaps this development will be a lesson to all those who threw themselves into the arms.

FIDA-Fatah Statement Condemns Hebron Settlement

TA2109155195 Gaza AL-HAYAH AL-JADIDAH
in Arabic 20 Sep 95 p 3

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Fatah Higher Committee in the occupied territories held a meeting with the FIDA [Palestinian Democratic Union] executive bureau. A political statement was issued following the meeting.

The statement affirms that Hebron is a basic and integral part of the occupied Palestinian territories and that what applies to all West Bank towns also applies to Hebron, as stipulated in the Oslo accord. It adds that our people will not accept less than a redeployment in Hebron that will ensure a free and dignified political life for our masses.

In addition, the statement notes that the existence of settlements in the West Bank in general and in the heart of steadfast Hebron in particular is the real source of the security tensions and political problems. It is also the source of the problems, suffering, and security threats facing our people. Therefore, the peace process will remain endangered as long as the settlement hotbeds disrupt the redeployment process and the agreement between the two sides. There is no alternative to evacuating the settlements from the heart of Hebron and disarming the settlers. [passage omitted]

Spokesman Denies Abu-Marzuq Replaced as Hamas Head

MM2109182795 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 21 Sep 95 p 1

[Report by Mufid 'Awwad: "Hamas Denies Appointing New Chief for Its Political Bureau To Replace Marzuq"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Amman — The Islamic Resistance Movement "Hamas" has denied reports about Khalid Mish'al's appointment as head of the movement's Political Bureau to replace Dr. Musa Abu-Marzuq, detained in the United States for the last two months.

Engineer Ibrahim Ghawshah, official spokesman for Hamas, told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that "these reports are completely untrue, because Dr. Abu-Marzuq is the head of the movement's Political Bureau."

The newspaper AL-ISTIQLAL, mouthpiece of the Islamic Jihad in Gaza, said that the Hamas leadership has decided to appoint Mish'al head of the Political Bureau to replace Dr. Abu-Marzuq in order to lessen Abu-Marzuq's importance in the eyes of the Americans, so that they will realize that they do not hold such a winning card after all.

Meanwhile, Ghawshah admitted that contacts are taking place between some Hamas members in the [Gaza] Strip and the West Bank and members of the Palestinian Authority [PA]. He described these contacts as being on an individual basis and as not stemming from an internal decision of the movement. He pointed out that there is a group in the PA which has been trying for several months to achieve so-called political penetration of Hamas by forming a tendency that agrees to a halt to armed action, recognizes the PA, and participates in the self-rule elections.

Ghawshah stressed that the attempts by the PA group in this respect have failed on the whole and amount to nothing, because Hamas was and still is one body in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, and abroad.

Radio Notes U.S. 'Conditions' for Aid Approval

JN2209074795 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic
0600 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] According to U.S. sources, the Senate has decided to approve \$100 million in aid to the Palestinian National Authority, provided the Authority closes down offices it runs in occupied Jerusalem.

The Senate also decided to ask the PLO to provide information about U.S. nationals detained by the PLO or other Palestinian groups.

The U.S. Administration will submit a report to the Senate six months from now on whether or not the Palestinian National Authority has adhered to these conditions.

Finland Recognizes Palestinian Passport

*JN2109194595 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1900 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Finland has recognized the Palestinian passport. This recognition came in a message the Finnish embassies in Cairo and Tel Aviv addressed to the Palestinian Planning and International Cooperation Ministry.

In Helsinki, Palestinian plenipotentiary Dr. Zuhayr al-Wazir received a letter from the Finnish Foreign Ministry saying that the Finnish Government officially recognizes the passport issued by the Palestinian Authority.

According to this recognition, holders of Palestinian passports can obtain an entry visa to Finland. Al-Wazir requested that a residence permit be stamped on his Palestinian diplomatic passport. His request was approved.

Arab-Israeli Talks

Talks Lead to Initialing of Self-Rule Agreement

'Arafat, Egypt's al-Baz Discuss Differences

*NC2109142395 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1350 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Taba, 21 Sep (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, currently in Taba, has held a telephone conversation with Dr. Usamah al-Baz, first Foreign Ministry under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs. It was part of the attempt to bridge the gap between the Palestinian and Israeli positions on the redeployment of the Israeli forces in Hebron and on the maps of Israel's withdrawal from the West Bank cities.

'Arafat's spokesman Nabil Abu-Rudaynah refused to give any details on the results of the telephone conversation.

It should be noted that Egypt and the United States are making tremendous efforts to bring Palestinian and Israeli viewpoints closer. President Husni Mubarak and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher held urgent contacts with President 'Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres.

President Mubarak also sent Dr. al-Baz to Israel yesterday on an urgent mission during which he delivered a message to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

'Arafat Adviser Sees 'Wide' Gap in Views

*NC2109160695 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1545 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Taba, 21 Sep (MENA)—A new round of talks between Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres ended this afternoon.

'Arafat's adviser Nabil Abu-Rudaynah has told MENA that during this round no agreement was reached on the differences between the two sides, particularly the question of Hebron and the maps related to the redeployment of Israeli troops outside Palestinian cities and villages in the West Bank, because of the wide gap between the two sides. He added that Egyptian and U.S. endeavors to bring the two sides' views closer continue.

Abu-Rudaynah added that for the time being negotiations are at a delicate and sensitive stage and that the general atmosphere at the talks is difficult. 'Arafat's adviser declined to fix a date for a conclusion of these talks in view of the gap in views between the two parties regarding the topics being negotiated, despite their agreement on the need for redeployment of Israeli troops in Hebron and Israel's recognition of the need for a geographical link between the Palestinian cities in the West Bank.

Negotiations between the two sides are scheduled to resume this evening.

Israeli Sources Report Progress on Hebron

*TA2109192095 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1900 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Sources in the Israeli delegation in Taba report progress in the negotiations on Hebron. This is reported by our political correspondent Shlomo Raz. It is still not clear, however, when will it be possible to wrap up the negotiations. Israel submitted new phrasings on the Hebron issue, based on the previous proposals. The new phrasings were approved by the prime minister.

Foreign Minister Peres, the ministers in charge of the negotiations with the Palestinians, and the senior IDF and Foreign Ministry echelons will convene in Rabin's office tomorrow afternoon for a briefing on the week's talks in Taba.

MENA: No Deal Expected in Next Few Days

*NC2109212395 Cairo MENA in Arabic
2045 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Gaza, 21 Sep (MENA)—It has become certain that a Palestinian-Israeli agreement

will not be signed within the next hours or days. The current round of talks may stop for two days, with the two delegations returning home before resuming the negotiations next week.

According to reports from Taba, problems regarding the city of Hebron still remain, but the talks have not reached a deadlock.

Marwan Kanafani, adviser to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, said the Israelis abandoned their demand for full responsibility over security in Hebron and now want only to protect the Jewish families in the city. The Palestinians want this to be a temporary measure until final arrangements are made. They say the continued presence of the settlers in the city constitutes a time bomb and aggression against Palestinian residents and Islamic sanctities. The settlers, therefore, should either leave the city or remain under Palestinian jurisdiction. [passage omitted]

MENA: Agreement Signing Possible

NC2209054095 *Cairo MENA in Arabic*
0520 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Taba, 22 Sep (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres concluded talks that started at dawn today.

The two officials have decided to resume negotiations at 1000 today.

Sources close to the talks have told MENA that some progress was made during 20 hours of talks and that an agreement might be signed today if this progress continues.

President 'Arafat canceled his visit to Cairo slated for this morning after Ahmad Quray, Abu-'Ala', was taken to Elat hospital suffering exhaustion.

Peres left Taba for Elat. He will return in a few hours to resume the talks. [passage omitted]

Israeli sources have said that the redeployment in the West Bank according to new maps that observe geographic continuity among the Palestinian towns and villages has not been settled yet. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, a preliminary examination of Ahmad Quray', the head of the Palestinian experts delegation to the Taba talks, revealed that he is suffering from high blood pressure, which led him to collapse early this morning. An ambulance was summoned from Elat to take Quray' to hospital. He seemed in bad shape.

Israeli sources have told MENA that the Israeli side has agreed to grant the Palestinians control of Hebron,

except for a small part in the central area inhabited by 400 extremist Jews.

The sources added that the Israeli side has also agreed to hand over the civilian administration building in the city to the Palestinians.

The issue of electricity remains unresolved, as does the issue of the release of Palestinian detainees.

Peres Takes Fatigued Quray' to Hospital

NC2209054595 *Cairo MENA in Arabic*
0045 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Taba, 22 Sep (MENA)—Ahmad Quray', the head of the Palestinian team of experts to the Taba talks and a member of the Palestinian Authority, was taken to Elat hospital at 0300 today suffering from extreme fatigue brought on by his efforts during the Palestinian-Israeli talks, which have been going on for six consecutive days.

Quray', also known as Abu-'Ala, was taken to the hospital by Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres.

Peres Says Accord Possible 'Today'

TA2209055095 *Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew*
0500 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] An agreement seems to be emerging in the Taba talks. Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres told our political correspondent Shlomo Raz that there is a chance of attaining an agreement soon, perhaps even today. His remarks indicate that the disagreements on Hebron and the maps have been settled.

Foreign Ministry Director General Uri Savir has briefed Dennis Ross, the American peace talks mediator, on the progress made in the negotiations and said that there is a good chance for completing the agreement within a few hours. The talks will resume at 0800 GMT for the final drafting of the agreement.

Last night, Abu-'Ala' [Ahmad Quray'], head of the Palestinian delegation, felt fatigue and complained of having chest pains. From Yoseftal Hospital in Elat where he was admitted, it has been reported that examination results apparently indicate that Abu-'Ala' had not suffered a heart attack. Nevertheless, he will be kept in the hospital for observation.

Kanafani Affirms Initialing Expected 'Today'

JN2209063595 *Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic*
0530 GMT 22 Sep 95

[Telephone interview with Marwan Kanafani, official spokesman for Yasir 'Arafat, in Taba, by unidentified correspondent in the studio—live]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Correspondent] Ladies and gentlemen, 90 minutes ago, another round of Taba talks ended and it seems that there has been progress in this round. On the line from Taba is Marwan Kanafani, President Yasir 'Arafat's official spokesman. Mr. Kanafani, good morning.

[Kanafani] Good morning.

[Correspondent] Has there been any progress in today's talks in Taba?

[Kanafani] As you have just said, we ended the talks about 90 minutes ago. This marathon started on 16 September, as you are aware, day and night. Apparently, there are final touches to be put in preparation for initialing the agreement.

[Correspondent] Will this take place today?

[Kanafani] It will be done at noon today in Taba after a meeting in which the final touches will be added. If this is done, the agreement will be initialed and the meetings will end.

[Correspondent] The maps have been a problem. There have been speeches also [as heard]. Has there been agreement on ... [question incomplete as heard]

[Kanafani, interrupting] Agreement was reached on the topics of these speeches and the primary points. The maps and other things are being examined. As I told you, if these final touches are put concerning these last unresolved points, we will be able to initial the agreement at noon today. I believe that there is an intention to sign at noon today.

[Correspondent] This means there are still unsolved points?

[Kanafani] Unsolved problems that will not require negotiations but agreement.

[Correspondent] What about the Hebron issue?

[Kanafani] There was agreement to redeploy in the entire Hebron city and on arrangements for the temporary presence of the settlers. In principle, all these issues have been agreed upon.

[Correspondent] Will the supervision of Hebron be Palestinian-Israeli supervision?

[Kanafani] Hebron is a Palestinian city and as I told you, it was decided the redeployment process will cover the city unconditionally. On this basis, the agreement will be initialed today. There is nothing to prevent redeployment in Hebron.

[Correspondent] What about the 400 settlers in Hebron?

[Kanafani] There will be temporary arrangements until their problem is solved.

[Correspondent] Do you mean the temporary arrangements will include supervision by both sides?

[Kanafani] Yes.

[Correspondent] Mr. Marwan Kanafani, what about the issue of detainees?

[Kanafani] As you know, after a long week of negotiating battles—not merely negotiations—we have reached an agreement which we believe is a good one on this issue. Of course, the Palestinian dream cannot be realized all at once. However, the effective steps, which will expand the Palestinian National Authority and provide a huge quantitative and qualitative dimension in terms of inhabitants and territory, will ultimately achieve what we aspire for.

[Correspondent] Was a final agreement reached on the issue of detainees in terms of releasing the first batch?

[Kanafani] Yes, the agreement which is to be announced today—approximately 400 pages excluding the appendices—details all these issues you are raising.

[Correspondent] When will the agreement be officially signed?

[Kanafani] We still have time before the official signing of the agreement.

[Correspondent] Mr. Marwan Kanafani, President Yasir 'Arafat's adviser and official spokesman, thank you.

[Kanafani] Thank you and good morning.

Agreement Reached on Judea, Samaria, Hebron

TA2209095895 *Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew*
0900 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] In Taba, the Peres-'Arafat talks have resumed. Before the meeting, Minister Peres said that he believes the negotiations can be concluded by 1000 GMT. According to him, an agreement has been reached on the maps for Judea and Samaria and on Hebron. The agreement is currently being translated into Hebrew, and it may be presented to the cabinet ministers before the Sabbath, Peres said.

Our political correspondent Shlomo Raz reports, however, that it appears that the agreement will not be initialed today, and that the parties will only issue a joint statement and continue the negotiations after Rosh Hashanah.

The agreement says that Israel will retain overriding responsibility for external security and security throughout the West Bank. Regarding war on terrorism and the protection of settlers in the rural areas, Israel's responsibility will override that of the Palestinian police. The Palestinian police will be in charge of public order only among the Palestinians.

'Arafat Phones Musa After Agreement Reached

NC2209100695 *Cairo MENA in Arabic*
0945 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 22 Sep (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat telephoned Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa today after reaching an agreement with the Israeli side on expanding self-rule in the West Bank.

'Arafat briefed Musa on what was achieved in this connection.

Accord Likely To Be Ratified 24 Sep

TA2209104795 *Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew*
1000 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Oslo B agreement will probably be initialed today by Uri Savir and Sa'ib 'Urayqat. The cabinet ministers will receive the text of the agreement today, and the cabinet will convene on 24 September to ratify it.

Our political correspondent Shlomo Raz reports several additional details of the agreement: A joint committee will be set up to decide on the number of Palestinian prisoners to be freed in the first, second, and third wave. The issue of control over the electricity grid has not yet been concluded, and the parties will discuss it within three months.

Foreign Minister Peres said that the differences on Hebron were settled after it had been proposed that within six months a bypass road be paved from Bet Hagay to Qiryat Arba' and another leading to Qarney Tzur. Some Hebron roads will be jointly used by Israelis and Palestinians. Praying procedures in the Cave of the Patriarchs will not change. Rachel's Tomb will remain Israel's responsibility.

Minister Peres believes that the elections in the territories will be held after the building of the Hebron bypass road is completed — that is, in six months.

At the same time, it has been learned that two days ago, Hebron clerics published an edict attacking 'Arafat and criticizing the arrangements being formulated on Hebron and the Cave of the Patriarchs.

Agreement on Self-Rule Initialed

NC2209125395 *Cairo MENA in Arabic*
1250 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Taba, 22 Sep (MENA)—The Palestinian and Israeli sides this afternoon in Taba initialed the agreement on implementing the second stage of the agreement to expand Palestinian self-rule.

Algeria

FIS Restates Opposition to Elections

MM2109142595 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic
21 Sep 95 pp 1,6

[Unattributed report: "Salvation Front Says: Insistence on Elections Will Only Worsen Crisis"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] London, AL-HAYAH — The Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] reacted yesterday for the first time to President Liamine Zeroual's announcement of his candidacy in the presidential elections. It reaffirmed its rejection of the elections, saying they would be a factor for worsening the crisis and not the opposite.

The AL-RIBAT bulletin, published by "FIS supporters in Europe" and to be circulated tomorrow, contains a statement to the effect that the Algerian Government, by insisting on holding the presidential elections in November 1995, confirms once again that it favors the policy of forward flight which would propel the country into a new phase, more dangerous than the previous one, with a known beginning but unknown consequences.

The bulletin said: "Presidential elections are an important turning point in the life of civilized peoples because they are an opportunity to get acquainted with the programs and plans that offer solutions to society's problems in all fields. In the countries that are known for a policy of iron and fire, elections are nothing but another stage to renew the legitimacy of dictatorship, injustice, and repression. Perhaps the amazing thing that Algeria will come to realize in the future and which will represent a shameful phase in the annals of its glorious history and a black mark on the pages of its bright history is that it will have given legitimacy to the ruling dictatorship and its blessing to putschists who denied the people's legitimacy to others. The tragedy will not end there, since, in addition to taking the legitimacy from the people by force and by the threat of tanks and guns, some international organizations will join in the conspiracy against the Algerian people to support a bloody group going against its will."

It went on: "We long ago ascertained that the Arab League and other regional organizations have always been at the service of regimes and never at the service of the peoples."

It added: "The free Algerian people reject the fact that international organizations which supervised the ethnic cleansing in Bosnia will supervise the elimination of democracy and free choice in Algeria. This should be determined by the people and not the repressive putschists."

It went on to explain: "Those claiming to be working for the good of the Algerian people must respect their will and support their sincere proposals for a solution to the crisis, represented by the national covenant. We reiterate once again our view that presidential elections in the present circumstances, without preparing the objective conditions for them, will thereby be a worsening factor and not the opposite. To insist on holding them today is to gamble with Algeria's territory and people. The true solution would be to provide the right climate and background for their success, by renouncing the policy of exclusion, enabling all political forces to participate, adhering to the people's will, and respecting its choice of men and platforms. Otherwise, the situation in Algeria will remain as it is or will worsen, regardless of whether the elections are held or not, because in this way it would carry within it the seeds of failure. [passage omitted]

Reactions Differ to Zeroual Candidacy Announcement

MM2109125895 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 21 Sep 95 pp 1, 4

[Report by Nadya Mahdid: "Mehri Attacks and Salvation Front Adopts Moderate Position on Zeroual's Candidacy"]

[FBIS Translated Text] London — A demonstration was staged yesterday in support of Algerian President Liamine Zeroual following the announcement of his candidacy in the elections scheduled for 16 November. The demonstration included thousands of citizens who condemned terrorism and carried portraits of President Zeroual.

Bachir Mechri, one of the Islamic Salvation Front's [FIS] lawyers, announced to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT yesterday a moderate position on Zeroual's candidacy. He stressed that, if he [Zeroual] commits himself to what he has announced, namely his rejection of expulsion and eradication, Algeria would witness the beginning of a truce after his election in 1996.

While Abdelhamid Mehri, leader of the Algerian Liberation Front party, attacked Zeroual's candidacy, saying that the outcome of his candidacy is known beforehand.

Algerian hard-liners who publish the AL-RIBAT bulletin in Europe have said that the question is: Will the elections be held or not? The bulletin expected an escalation in violence.

In Algeria, the demonstration staged in support of Zeroual and his candidacy took place in a city situated 350 km east of the Algerian capital in the region from which Zeroual comes. Several people's marches had

been organized in a number of Algerian cities in support of the presidential elections. Some of them demanded that Zeroual announce his candidacy.

Mehri, leader of the Algerian Liberation Front, told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that Zeroual's announcement "is not the announcement of a candidacy but, rather, the announcement of the final outcome of the elections."

He added that "the Liberation Front party had expected the announcement of the candidacy, which is why we said that these elections are not genuine and their results are known beforehand."

Mehri pointed out that the Liberation Front Central Committee will meet at the end of the month to announce its position on political conditions in Algeria.

As for Bachir Mechri, one of the FIS's lawyers, he considered Zeroual's candidacy surprising news because he had remained silent for weeks.

He told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, I believe that 1996 will witness a general truce if Zeroual overcomes the expulsion policy, as he mentioned in his speech, and a serious dialogue with all groups in Algeria can bear fruit.

He added that after Zeroual is elected by the people, he will not be held at ransom by those who put him in power. And since he was wronged and dismissed in the days of President Chadli Bendjedid, he knows better than other the effects of expulsion and eradication.

He believes that the delay in announcing Zeroual's candidacy is proof that the dispute among those in power, including the Army, has been resolved — which in itself is a positive factor. Mechri said that Zeroual is capable of resolving the crisis, and the Islamic groups do not harbor as much hatred toward him as they harbor toward other politicians in Algeria.

On the bloody actions committed by the armed groups, Mechri, who is one of the FIS's lawyers, said that "one should not use the odd party as a judgment, because public opinion is for the principles bolstering Islam, that is, the state, the territorial integrity of the homeland, and the renunciation of violence. And this is what Zeroual spoke of."

As for the AL-RIBAT bulletin, mouthpiece of the hard-line Algerians in Europe, it wondered: "Will presidential elections actually be held?" It also said that the mujahidin's slogan is: "Anyone who goes to the ballot box will disappear in it."

The Socialist Forces Front — one of the eight parties that signed the "national covenant" in Rome calling for the boycotting of the elections — believes that Zeroual's candidacy means that "Major General Zeroual

will succeed President Zeroual." Ahmed Djedi, member of the Front's leadership, accused the regime of seeking to "erase" the results of the legislative elections held in 1991.

Former Prime Minister Urges 'Radical' Changes

LD2109211395 Algiers ENTV Television Network
in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Sep 95

[Italicized passages recorded; boldface words in French]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] As we said in the headlines, Redha Malek, after announcing his intention to stand in the presidential elections, today chaired a rally organized by the Republican National Alliance at the Mohamed Elaid Al Khalifa cultural hall in Constantine. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified correspondent] In a lengthy presentation, Redha Malek reviewed the general situation into which the country had declined after the phenomenon of corruption, a situation which, Redha Malek said, forces us to carry out radical change by returning to the course of progress according to the new material and human values which oblige decisionmakers in the country to adapt to them and to concern themselves with the preoccupations and aspirations of the Algerian people.

Redha Malek stressed that one of the reasons for the current crisis was that we had lost, as he said, the thread which was rooted in the principles and traits of the November revolution.

[Malek] *The youth of today must assume their responsibility just as in the days of the revolution those generations assumed their responsibility in order to defend the Algerian nation which had become targeted. The presence of those young people here is proof that they are firmly committed to engaging in the battle of change, change.* [passage omitted]

The situation must change and it must be changed radically.

The battle for change means saving the country from corruption, decay, decay and decadence, decadence. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Redha Malek also talked about the economic crisis, indicating that his government had been among the first to call for debt rescheduling and a halt to the bloodshed.

[Malek] *At that time we called for a halt to this hemorrhage — on one hand the bloodshed as a result of terrorism, and on the other the hemorrhaging of finance, finance.* [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Redha Malek also discussed another point. This was the forthcoming elections and respect for the electoral safeguards and laws.

[Malek] *The elections came and provided an opportunity. We asked the head of state to give us safeguards so that the framework of the Constitution is respected and the electoral law is respected. In the elections law Article 108, paragraph 14 states that a candidate must not use religion for party purposes. [passage omitted]*

Also, these elections must be truly above reproach. Let us get back to reality and work as we always have done on the basis of our principles: the principles of the sovereignty of Algeria, the unity of Algeria, and the restoration of Algeria to its status at the international level.

Egypt

Foreign Minister Meets Jordanian Counterpart

NC2109190195 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1810 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 21 Sep (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa conferred today with Jordanian Foreign Minister 'Abd-al- Karim al-Kabariti, who is currently visiting Cairo.

Al-Kabariti described the meeting as part of the constant dialogue and contacts between Egypt and Jordan. He added that the two countries are always in agreement on all strategic issues dealing with bilateral and inter-Arab relations. He stressed that the two countries' views are identical over the strategy of peace, bilateral relations, and inter-Arab, regional, and international relations.

Al-Kabariti described Egyptian-Jordanian relations as excellent. He added that press articles written on these relations following the defection of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's son-in-law Husayn Kamil to Jordan only reflect the opinion of those who wrote them and do not affect the excellent relations between the countries' officials.

Saudi Minister Conveys Message to Mubarak

LD2109162795 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1430 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] This afternoon in Alexandria President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt received His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the [Saudi] foreign minister.

The meeting was attended by 'Amr Musa, the Egyptian foreign minister; ambassador Muhammad Ma'mun Kurdi, the [Saudi] Foreign Ministry undersecretary for economic and cultural affairs; and Abu-Bakr Rafi', the

charge d'affaires at the embassy of the custodian of the two holy mosques in Cairo.

In a statement to the Saudi news agency, Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said he was honored to meet with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, and that he conveyed a message to him from King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques. He said the message concerned Arab developments as a whole and the eagerness of the two leaderships to continue coordination and consultation between them for the benefit of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, brotherly Egypt, and the Arab nation in general.

Ministry Issues Statement on 'Terrorist' Group

NC2109163695 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1430 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 21 Sep (MENA)—A statement by the Interior Ministry released this afternoon pointed out that leading fugitive terrorist Mustafa Hamzah, who resides in Sudan and has been sentenced to death, is the one who made preparations for carrying out the plans of a new terrorist organization. Interior Minister Hasan al-Alfi announced the arrest of the group's members earlier today.

The statement noted that among the key installations targeted by the organization was the Police Institute. Members of the organization planned to attack the institute while students and their families were submitting their papers to join the institute this morning. The statement added that Hamzah had recruited elements to lead the organization inside Egypt. Thanks to its modern equipment, the State Security Intelligence Department identified the leading terrorist elements, including terrorists 'Izzat Muhammad 'Ali, Rajab Sayyid 'Atiyah, and Khalid 'Abd-al-Qadir 'Abd-al-Wahid.

The statement added that these terrorists used several code names as a cover to carry out the instructions assigned to them by their leaders abroad. They were instructed to form secret organizations to plan the implementation of terrorist operations to disrupt security prior to the elections. The hideouts of the terrorist groups formed in Cairo, al-Jizah, al-Qalubiyah, and al-Minya Governorates were kept under watch, the statement added. The main center of the terrorist elements, located in Mahmud Siddiq Street in Hulwan in southern Cairo, was also identified, the statement noted. Terrorist Muhammad 'Ali married 'Azzah 'Abduh al-Sayyid after having obtained forged documents in the name of Ahmad 'Ali Hasan Sa'd. Terrorist Rajab Sayyid 'Ata married Intisar Muhammad Thabit after having changed his name to Ahmad 'Abd-al-Fattah Sultan. The statement noted that the Interior Ministry's database revealed

that terrorist Khalid 'Abd-al-Wahid had prepared forged documents to obtain an identity card, a certificate of exemption from military service, and a passport in the name of Mahmud Muhammad Taha. Reports revealed that the terrorist group established various kinds of social relations and set up businesses to use as a facade to cover up their secret terrorist activity.

The statement added that the group's contacts with their leaders in Sudan were carefully monitored and meetings between the group's leaders and cadres at some public places were also monitored. The statement added that investigations proved that the organization's leadership followed two procedures to carry out their plan. First: To establish a military wing made up of 'Izzat Muhammad 'Ali and Rajab Sayyid 'Ata; second, to form an intellectual wing that sought to infiltrate youth gatherings for recruitment purposes. The latter wing was led by terrorist Khalid 'Abd-al-Qadir 'Abd-al-Wahid. The volume of financial backing, which started to flow from abroad, was determined. A close watch was kept on how the money was spent in recruitment, preparations, planning, obtaining shelters and hideouts, and storing weapons and explosives, the statement added.

The statement pointed out that counterterrorism units from the State Security Intelligence Department stormed these hideouts early this morning. As soon as the troops started to break into the main terrorist den where preparations were under way to implement the first terrorist operations against the Police Institute in Turah, they came under fire, forcing them to return fire.

The Interior Ministry statement said terrorist 'Izzat Muhammad 'Ali Mutawalli, nicknamed 'Izzat al- Jiji and using the war name "Tal'at," was killed in the lightning confrontation.

Information showed that the terrorist was the leader of the group. He was sent into the country after receiving sophisticated military training in Afghanistan and Sudan. He had been charged in several terrorist cases, notably bank bombings and the attempt to blow up the al-Nabilah Hotel in al-Jizah.

Leading terrorist Rajab Sayyid 'Ata 'Atiyah, who used the war name "Sakhr," was also killed in the clashes. He assisted the aforementioned in leading the group and was one of the leaders of the military wing. He received training in Sudan and Afghanistan and is known for using violent, bloody methods. He had been charged in cases of bank bombings and attempts to blow up subways in al-Ma'adi in southern Cairo.

Simultaneous raids on the hideouts of the leaders and cadres of the terrorist group in four governorates led to

the arrest of 49 terrorists. Many items were also seized, especially:

- Two 7.62x39 automatic rifles.
- One 9mm Hulwan pistol with an effaced number.
- One F-1 assault hand grenade.
- Two fully prepared TNT explosive charges, 350g each.
- Many electric circuits, resistance devices, material used to prepare explosive charges, and \$55,000.
- Forged official papers—identity and family cards, forged and blank certificates for exemption from military service, and organizational papers related to types of mines, ways to obtain information and wired and wireless connections, anti-bugging methods, the effects and characteristics of weapons of mass destruction, principles of hiding and supply, the Sinai's topography, warfare methods and military management, qualities of commanders, how to develop team spirit, security of personnel, and the art of fighting.

The papers also include a number of names, addresses, and telephone numbers.

The prosecution was notified to start an inquiry, while the State Security Intelligence Department continues to follow and watch any moves through which terrorist elements may try to revive their activity.

Muslim Brotherhood's Role in 'Terrorism' Seen

NC2109100395 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic
17 Sep 95 p 13

[Report by Ahmad Musa: "The Brothers Are Suspects"]

[FBIS Translated Text] What is the true role of the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood on the security stage now? This is the big question being raised these days following the decision to refer some Muslim Brotherhood leaders to a military court.

The referral made many people protest, asking the State to go back on the decision. But serious undisclosed reasons must have pushed the State into this measure.

Playing with fire. This is the least that can be said about the Muslim Brotherhood and its role on the stage, although the group is trying to exonerate itself from any relationship with terrorist elements at home and abroad. But perhaps the Brothers will retract this claim of innocence when they know that their files, now before courts, contain serious pieces of evidence. There is proof that the secret group is embracing terrorist leaders here and there, and the evidence highlights the group's coordination with al-Turabi's [National Islamic] Front, the International Muslim Brotherhood Organization, and terrorist factions in various Arab countries. This poses an important question: Where do the Brothers stand on

the sinful attempt on President Husni Mubarak's life in Addis Ababa?

A senior judicial official offered the facts that refute the claims of the banned group. The official said: Interrogations of the Muslim Brotherhood leaders by the Higher State Security Prosecution showed how dangerous they are and revealed their moves to disseminate the thinking of a banned group. There is important evidence that they supported terrorist elements and used professional associations to send terrorist cadres abroad to receive military training and then return to the country to perpetrate crimes. Investigations into case No. 136 of 1995 clarify the crimes and the illegal, punishable-by-law acts committed by members of the group's Shura Council and Guidance Bureau. The competent authorities arrested the suspects as stipulated by the law, and they had permission from the prosecution.

Is there proof that a relationship exists between the Muslim Brotherhood and the terrorist elements in Egypt?

The answer soon came: Members of the group control the capabilities of the Labor Party and use the media message to support the position of the extremists and to claim that the security agencies are involved in excesses and torture against those extremists. Muslim Brotherhood members of the Lawyers Syndicate form councils to defend suspects in terrorist cases. The lawyers take advantage of their legal chance of defense to slander the state and its positions and to promote the views and positions of the criminal organizations. This happened most notably during the cases of Dr. Rif'at al-Mahjub's assassination and the attempts to assassinate the prime minister and the information minister. More serious is that members of professional association councils disburse money to families of detainees and convicts affiliated with the al-Jihad Organization and the Islamic Group. They sent 12,000 Egyptian pounds to officials of the Islamic Group in Asyut to be distributed among the group's members and their families. They also made down payments for housing units for terrorists; they appointed the father of detainee Yasir Fathi Muhammad Fawwaz, who was the leader of the Islamic Group in Asyut, as a headmaster at the Muslim Brotherhood's Dar Hira' School and paid him a monthly allowance; and they worked for the issuing of a decision exempting sons of dead al-Jihad Organization leader Majid al-'Utafy from paying school fees. This is what drug lords do with their guys; they look after their families when they are imprisoned or killed. Observations determined the Muslim Brotherhood's role in issuing assignments to terrorist elements in universities. Those elements responded to the groups' directions, whether to stop or escalate instigation.

Observers of the activity and developments of the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood and its secret service can see the prominent external role the group is playing. The Brothers use their infiltration of Arab charity societies and Egyptian professional associations to serve the purposes of the group and prepare the ground for hostile operations by the extremist groups, operations directed against the country and its strategic objectives. For example:

They use the Doctors Syndicate's Humanitarian Relief Committee to send young extremist and Brotherhood members abroad under cover of working on commercial projects for some states and regions (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia). The aim is to get those young men involved in military conflicts there and so become trained in the use of weapons and explosives.

They try to absorb fugitive terrorists abroad through charity organizations and Islamic relief efforts on the pretext of finding them jobs and securing their livelihood in neighboring states. They were sent to Afghanistan to join Arab mujahidin and receive military training before being brought back to the country to engage in terrorist acts.

Security events and developments have revealed more "Brotherhood" practices. It is no secret that the banned group knew of the attempt to assassinate President Mubarak in Addis Ababa. Evidence available on this crime indicates that Sudanese Muslim Brother Ibrahim Abu-Hasanayn acted as a channel of communication between the group in Egypt and its wing in Sudan. He coordinated between the terrorist elements who planned and carried out the assassination attempt and the Sudanese National [Islamic] Front led by Hasan al-Turabi. This front provided shelter, training, and transport for the fugitive terrorist group, which includes Mustafa Hamzah, 'Izzat Yasin, Sharif 'Abd-al-Rahman, Husayn Ahmad Shamit, Safwat 'Abd-al-Ghani, 'Abd-al-Karim al-Nadi, and others.

The Egyptian security services have already revealed the involvement of Sudanese national Abu-Hasanayn in transporting terrorist material inside parcels at Cairo Airport. The parcels were sent from Pakistan en route to Khartoum. They carried the address of one of Abu-Hasanayn's companies in Khartoum. Despite this reliable and documented evidence, the "Brotherhood" tried to dissociate itself from the Addis Ababa incident. But the next few days will reveal more about their grave acts, in addition to their participation in conferences and seminars in countries that support terrorism. Representatives from the terrorist organizations—Islamic Group and al-Jihad—and leaders of terrorist factions in several Arab countries also attended these meetings. The

banned Muslim Brotherhood group prepared a coordination work charter with the Islamic Group in Pakistan and the Turkish al-Rafah Party. It also convened a plenary meeting in an Arab country on the anniversary of the death of Muslim Brotherhood leader Sayyid Qutub, who was executed in 1965. Leaders of the Muslim Brotherhood's international organization and fugitive leaders of terrorist groups attended this meeting. Muslim Brotherhood leaders held several meetings with extremist leaders during the celebrations and conferences organized by the Sudanese National [Islamic] Front. Muslim Brotherhood leader Mustafa Mashhur met terrorist leaders from Egypt, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Yemen, Palestine, and Iran.

Observers of the banned group ask who funds its activity. Important and interesting documents give an answer and reveal an integrated plan to fund its activity in various Islamic and Arab countries and spend on its organizational and propaganda operations to peddle its political stances. The Muslim Brotherhood has set up several economic projects, allocating a major part of their returns to supporting its secret movement. It has set up banks, including the al-Taqwa Bank in the Bahamas, which launders dirty money globally. It collects donations from charitable organizations and sympathetic Arab regimes on the pretext of supporting the Islamic movements and aiding the Muslims in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Kashmir, and Somalia. It collects part of the wages of Muslim Brotherhood members working abroad.

The republican decree referring case No. 136 of 1995, in which Muslim Brotherhood leaders Dr. 'Isam al-'Aryan, Dr. Muhammad Sayyid Habib, Khayrat al-Shatir, Hasan al-Jamal, Ibrahim al-Za'farani, and others are accused, to a military court is no coincidence. Such important and sensitive cases need a quick decision. Military courts are specialised in examining these cases and have judges who are qualified to deal with terrorist cases and secret organizations and pinpoint their methods and plans. Meanwhile, civilian courts have before them thousands of ordinary cases that need to be examined. Serious cases that touch on state security need a quick decision.

An informed source has denied that the decision to refer the Muslim Brotherhood members to a military court is a breach of governmental pledges. In this regard the Egyptian Government has only made pledges to the people. The government is dutybound to protect the people's lives and gains in their various sections. There is no such thing as a governmental pledge to the Muslim Brotherhood. It is inconceivable that the State would ignore any violation of constitutional legality and any infringement of the homeland's interest, stability, or

development. Nor would it tolerate subversive activity against the people and their interests.

Libya

Coverage of Pharmaceutical Factory Opening Continues

To Make 'Basic Medical Materials'

LD2109173595 Tripoli JANA in English
1628 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Al-Rabitah al Fatih [Sep] 21 JAMAHARIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The great al Fateh revolution has added a further mighty achievement for the huge achievements it already accomplished in the sector of health and the build up of man, namely the al-Rabitah factory for basic medical products which was opened yesterday. This huge industrial monument is one of the giant achievements of the great al Fateh revolution. The purpose of this strategic industry is to satisfy our needs for medicine.

The purpose of setting up the factory is an urgent need for the production of basic and raw materials of medicines in the Arab homeland and Africa and the rest of the developing nations as this industry is considered a significant strategic industry in the area. The factory includes 13 lines of production to manufacture basic medical materials. The production lines are automated and designed according to the latest technology which ensures programming and automatic monitoring to avoid any technical problems during the manufacturing process. The factory includes a section of quality control which tests all basic materials to ensure their purity and quality. The basic materials are kept until the quality control section approves their legal use. Accordingly these materials become suitable for production in the other factories of the company or for export outside the Great Jamahariyah.

Qualified staff made up of Libyan specialised cadres and qualified personnel inspects the various processes of production by inspecting the ingredients of the products and its monitoring. These processes are in tandem in all phases of production. The section of quality control also records the results of the examinations and keeps samples of the products pending further monitoring.

The company signed a number of agreements with medical production companies for participation in running al-Rabitah factory and for the promotion and marketing of its products abroad. The al-Nass chemical and medical products company in the Arab Republic of Egypt is one of these companies. A scientific feasibility study was conducted to define and determine the priorities of

production in line with the local and international demands and patents were approved for 27 synthetic products representing a great portion of major medicines of wide use in the two stuffs of aspirin and paracetamol were inspected for the first phase of production.

There are other agreements with production companies to produce basic and intermediate materials used [words indistinct] production. The company is presently studying the prospect of manufacturing some basic materials which are used in some strategic industries such as detergents and pesticides and other materials which are [word indistinct] in childrens' [word indistinct].

JANA Gives More Details on Factory

LD2109110795 Tripoli JANA in Arabic
0800 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Al-Rabitah, 21 Sep — Today, the great al-Fatih revolution has added a new giant accomplishment to the ones which have been achieved in the sector of health and human well being, it is the al-Rabitah factory for primary pharmaceutical materials which was opened yesterday evening...

Here is a brief outline of the factory:

This great industrial edifice is one of the giant accomplishments which has been achieved thanks to the great al-Fatih revolution... The aim of this strategic industry is to fulfill our pharmaceutical needs.

The purpose for establishing this factory was the urgent need for component pharmaceutical factories for raw materials, especially in the Arab world, Africa, and in other developing countries, where such industry is considered one of the important strategic industries in the region.

The factory has 13 production lines for manufacturing primary pharmaceutical materials. These lines are automated, designed according to the latest electronic monitoring systems, and programmed by automatic control systems to prevent technical problems during manufacturing.

The factory has also a section for quality control where many test are undertaken on the raw materials to verify its purity and high quality. Raw materials are preserved until the quality control section licenses its application legally. Thus, these raw materials become suitable for manufacturing in the company's other factories or for export outside the Great Jamahiriyah.

A team of highly qualified Libyan specialists strictly check various stages of manufacturing. They also conduct and follow up studies on plant ingredients. The two operations are correlated throughout the manufacturing

stages. The quality control section also registers the outcome of these tests and stores samples of the products for monitoring.

The company has concluded a number of agreements with companies specializing in processing primary pharmaceutical materials to participate in running the al-Rabitah factory and marketing its products abroad. One of these companies is al-Nasir pharmaceutical chemicals company in the Arab Republic of Egypt.

A scientific study has been conducted to prioritize production according to local and international market demands. A licence to produce 27 pharmaceutical components which represent a large number of important and widely-used medicines has been obtained. Aspirin and paracetamol have been chosen for the first stage of production. [passage omitted]

Furthermore, there are agreements with a number of companies to supply it with basic and compound elements necessary for the production of pharmaceutical products.

The plant's parent company is currently studying the feasibility of producing a number of chemical components necessary for manufacturing a number of strategic industries, like detergents, cleaning agents, and other products necessary for manufacturing food in general and children's food in particular. [passage omitted]

'Huge Ceremony' at Opening

LD2109173495 Tripoli JANA in English
1639 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] al-Rabitah, al Fatih [Sep] 21, JAMAHARIYAH NEWS AGENCY — On the road of making progress and prosperity on this bounteous land: and [passage indistinct].

A new industrial monument was added today, the al-Rabitah factory for basic medical products. It is considered one of the most modern factories in the Arab area and in Africa. Al-Rabitah area yesterday witnessed a huge ceremony within the pattern of celebrations of the eid [feast] of all eids, the 26th anniversary of the great al Fateh revolution, which the al-Rabitah factory for basic medical products was opened. The factory is considered a strategic factory in the area of medicines and medical drugs.

The opening ceremony was attended by the secretary of foreign affairs at the secretariat of the General People's Congress, Dr 'Ali 'Abd-al-Fattah al-Makhzanji, the minister of health in Egypt, Dr Ahmed al Alawi the minister of health in sisterly Morocco, Dr Sa'ud Kassami the undersecretary of health in the UAE, Dr

Salih Burjini the UNDP representative in the Great Jamahiriya, the secretary of the general people's committee for health and social security, members of the diplomatic corps accredited to the Great Jamahiriya.

The ceremony was also attended by a number of experts and specialists in the areas of medical production and representatives of medical production industries and professional medical experts in the Great Jamahiriya and Egypt, the staff of the National Pharmaceutical Company, the secretaries of people's congresses and committees, popular leaderships and masses in the area.

The opening ceremony was also attended by a large number of press correspondents and journalists and reporters from Arab and international radio and television.

Pharmaceuticals Agreements Signed With Egypt, Morocco

LD2109182895 Tripoli Great Jamahiriya Radio Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] An agreement was signed in Tripoli this afternoon on cooperation in the fields of health and drug manufacturing between the Great Jamahiriya and the Arab Republic of Egypt. This agreement was signed by the brother secretary of the General People's Committee for Health and Social Security and Dr. 'Ali 'Abd-al-Fattah al-Makhzanji, the Egyptian health minister.

The agreement covers improved cooperation in the fields of health and drug manufacturing, the broadening of cooperation in the areas of drug control and the exchange of knowledge on the pharmaceutical industry, and the manufacture of pharmaceutical raw materials and compounds. The agreement also confirms that the necessary means and conditions for the registration of producing companies and their pharmaceutical preparations will be standardized and applied in the two fraternal countries.

The agreement also provides for training Libyan Arab cadres in various medical specializations, in addition to the exchange of medical experience in high-level and rare specializations, the standardization of health syllabuses at the different stages of medical training, and the implementation of pharmaceutical cooperation and experiments through the exchange of products of the Rabitah basic pharmaceutical materials factory for pharmaceutical preparations and medical requirements produced by Egyptian factories.

An agreement was signed in Tripoli this morning on cooperation in the fields of health and drug manufacture between the Great Jamahiriya and Morocco. This agreement was signed by the brother secretary of the

General People's Committee for Health and Social Security and Dr. Ahmed Alaoui, the Moroccan public health minister.

This agreement covered cooperation in the medical and pharmaceutical fields, the drugs trade, the improvement of the quality of preparations, and the protection of Arab pharmaceutical products, in addition to the exchange of experience in the manufacture of drugs and vaccines, the exchange of medical experience, and the strengthening of relations between medical and pharmaceutical research centers in the Great Jamahiriya and their counterparts in Morocco. [passage omitted]

Al-Fazzani on Deportations, Barcelona Meeting

NC2109212895 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2050 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Cairo, 21 Sep (MENA)—Jum'ah al-Fazzani, secretary of the Libyan General People's Committee for unity, has stressed that the essence of the Palestine question is the Palestinian people's right to return to their land. Those who cast doubt on this right or take it lightly do not belong to the Arab nation, he said.

In statements this evening, al-Fazzani said the Arab people must change the conditions experienced by the Palestinian people under the Israeli occupation; that is, enable the Palestinians to return to their lands.

He said the deportation of Palestinians from Libya was agreed upon with the Palestinians themselves. He noted that Libya issued statements to this effect.

On Libya's participation in the Barcelona conference and today's discussions at the meeting of the foreign ministers of 10 Mediterranean Arab countries, al-Fazzani said the meeting resulted in a decisive common Arab position on the importance of Libya's participation in the conference in its capacity as a Mediterranean country.

He praised the Arab position for insistence on Libya's participation in the Barcelona conference, saying this shows the extent of Arab cohesion. He explained that the Arab ministers who will attend the conference made many decisions and recommendations calling for unified Arab views during the conference. [passage omitted]

Sudan

Al-Turabi: Islamic Movement Will Liberate World

AB2109154295 Paris AFP in English 1053 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Khartoum, 21 Sep (AFP) — Sudan's influential Islamic leader Hasan 'Abdallah al-Turabi has said his Sudanese Islamic Movement will

not be confined to the country, but will "liberate the world." According to Thursday's [21 September] edition of the independent AKHBAR AL-YAWM daily, al-Turabi told a meeting of Sudan's 26 state governors in the eastern town of Kassala that "the revolutionary movement prevailing in Sudan will not stop within Sudanese territory, but will be in the frontline to liberate the world."

In his address Tuesday, he described Sudan as "a pioneer of the new renaissance." "Sudan is presently emancipating itself from all hegemony and the emancipation revolution has covered all economic, social and political walks of life." "There will be no return to partisanship," he added.

Al-Turabi, who is also secretary-general of the Khartoum based Popular Arab and Islamic Conference, did not specifically mention what he would liberate the world from, but he has previously attacked secularism and called for dialogue between the world's religions. According to the paper, he also accused the West of "creating conflict" between Sudan and its neighbours and of wanting to "dominate" Africa.

Foreign Minister Seeks Dialogue With Egypt

MM2109155995 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 21 Sep 95 p 5

[Interview with Foreign Minister 'Ali 'Othman Taha by Sawzan Abu Husayn in Cairo; date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Abu Husayn] It was considered unlikely that you would participate in the meetings of the 104th session of the Arab League Council, owing to the nature of the present sensitive phase in Egyptian—Sudanese relations and the punitive stage reached since Sudan's involvement in the attempt on the life of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak was proved. Did you have any forebodings about this as you decided to attend the Arab League Council meetings?

[Taha] I did, and many quarters both inside and outside Sudan advised me not to go to Egypt at this time because of the current crisis in relations between the countries, but I was determined to participate in the meetings and to come to Egypt. Indeed, I went even further than that by traveling to Egypt aboard an Egyptian plane, in the conviction that storming the sources of danger and complications in the relations between peoples acts as a lifebelt and that coming directly to Egypt to elucidate the facts was much better than fleeing because of the responsibility we bear.

[Abu Husayn] Why do not you ask for a meeting with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa? Is there any likelihood of such a meeting?

[Taha] Yes. I have asked for a meeting as well as a dialogue. But this matter has its own calculations and overtures and depends on the other side's acceptance. For its part, Sudan has taken numerous initiatives in this regard. This is my second visit to Egypt in six months. As for Egypt, it has suspended all visits by its officials to us for three years now..., and the last visit to Khartoum by an Egyptian foreign minister was 10 years ago.... Sudan has sought communication, but to no avail.

[Abu Husayn] Has the relationship between Cairo and Khartoum reached the point of no return?

[Taha] As far as we in Sudan are concerned, our relations with all countries remain open, and the determination to overcome all conflicts constitutes a basic principle of those relations. We believe that Almighty God created life itself on the basis of dialogue between right and wrong and between man and Satan, and consequently there is no such thing as a point of no return in relations with any country.

[Abu Husayn] Then what stands in the way of relations between Egypt and Sudan based on communication and the absence of tension?

[Taha] There are regional factors as well as international factors. With regard to the regional factor, we feel that for a long period after independence relations between Egypt and Sudan remained mere diktat by one side, namely Egypt, over the other. The Salvation Revolution is now trying to place these relations within the framework of dealings between two sides, which some call dealings between equals, while we call it give and take.

As to the second factor, namely the international factor, some influential circles around the world believe that the Islam which Sudan raises constitutes a threat to their strategic interests in the region. Indeed, this objection has quite often been said to our faces directly.

[Abu Husayn] Why is the organ of the Islamic Front, which is led by Dr. Hasan al-Turabi, not separated from the regime of President al-Bashir? Because that would lead to a shuffling of cards, and Sudan's relations with its foreign neighbors would become regular.

[Taha] True. This is one of the challenges we are facing. We believe that politics means the organization of relations between peoples. All this has roots in religion, so there can be no separation between religion and politics.... Furthermore, relations between us and the neighboring countries suffer from inherited complications that are not due to the question of religion in Sudan. For example, the problem of Hala'ib was raised right after Sudan's independence, when it was politically only two

years old. At the time there was no question of religion or al-Turabi.

Likewise, the conflict between us and Ethiopia is as old as our independence. It is a dispute over border demarcation, as happens with all countries, be they European, Arab, or African.

With regard to our dispute with Uganda, it started with the beginning of the rebellion in the South and Uganda's support for it.

As to our conflicts with Kenya and Chad, we have succeeded in overcoming them and have recently succeeded in resolving the problems of border demarcation.

[Abu Husayn] Let us go back to the Egyptian-Sudanese conflicts. What would be the right kind of overture that would help persuade the Egyptian side to enter into dialogue with Sudan?

[Taha] True relations would be those that are embarked on by the two sides, who should believe in the need to draw up a joint program of action. For our part we have suggested that there should be a precise specification of the points of contention in both the political and security fields... and that we should discuss these points and agree on a working machinery in the form of joint political and security committees and other technical groups on the level of experts, to follow up the implementation of what is agreed with regard to the disputed issues.

[Abu Husayn] All this talk lacks substance. Can you provide a greater proof of the seriousness of the dialogue?

[Taha] Yes. We have said to the Egyptian side: If you think that Sudan has a political interest in permitting terrorism to operate from the Sudanese territories, then why does the Egyptian side permit the passage of arms and terrorists at the Egyptian points of entry? It is Egypt's duty to ensure the security of its borders in a manner that leaves no room for doubt, whether Sudan is supposedly unable to ensure that security or even if the Egyptian side has doubts about Sudan's intentions.

But what has actually happened is that Egypt has provided shelter for the Sudanese opposition and has endowed it with complete legitimacy to fight us, calling openly for revolution against us and inciting the use of violence.

Thus, Egypt provides a haven for terrorism against the Sudanese Government and receives envoys of the rebel movement and of the proscribed Communist Party, which advocates the use of violence and force and rebellion against the regime in Khartoum

[Abu Husayn] But Egypt does so openly and receives the opposition in front of the media. Is this not better than the covert methods used by the al-Turabi Front against Egypt?

[Taha] We have no interest in harming Egypt.

[Abu Husayn] If that is true, why does not Khartoum hand over the three accused in the case of the attempt on the life of President Mubarak in Addis Ababa, as an adequate overture for the resumption of bilateral dialogue between the two sides?

[Taha] I agree that relations in their present form are passing through a crisis and that they need to be tackled to resolve it. But the start of such an effort depends on both sides' feeling that matters have reached a stage that constitutes a common threat to both of them. Thus this is the opening leading to negotiations. The opening does not lie in stopping at a specific minor point or in insisting on any specific demand. It lies in the establishment of a common understanding based on trust, because the crisis now epitomizes an advanced stage of mistrust between the two sides.

[Abu Husayn] But Sudan's lack of response to Ethiopia's statement creates an obstacle in the way of the resumption of dialogue. Is that not so?

[Taha] The Addis Ababa incident is a secondary and transient matter, and we have not been remiss in terms of cooperating with Egypt. I asked [Egyptian Foreign] Minister 'Amr Musa during our stay in Addis Ababa and on that terrible day if there was anything that Sudan could do to help. We are prepared to offer all help. Thus Sudan is committed not only with regard to Egypt alone but also with regard to all other sides.

[Abu Husayn] Is there any Libyan-Syrian mediation taking place on the margin of the Arab League meetings to arrange for a meeting between you and Minister 'Amr Musa?

[Taha] Numerous efforts are being made in this regard, and we welcome them. We look forward to the rallying of all Arab efforts, so that a new chapter of Arab-Arab dialogue can be opened. [Taha ends]

At the end of the interview, the Sudanese minister criticized the Ethiopian statement, saying it did not help Sudan to unmask the three extremists because it gave the information about them as follows:

The first suspect:
Name: Mustafa Hamzah
Nationality: Egyptian
Age: about 30 years old.
Education: Believed to have completed his education.

Occupation: In the Islamic Grouping leadership.
Previous record: Well-known terrorist wanted by the Egyptian Government.
Social status: Married and lives in a house in a district of Khartoum.

The Egyptian message stated that the first suspect had frequently visited Ethiopia two years ago within the framework of preparations for the incident.

The second suspect:

Name: 'Izzat Yasin.
Nationality: Egyptian.
Height: 5 feet 7 inches.
Color: Dark black.
Color of Hair: Black and short, shaven.
Age: about 34 years old.
Built: slim
Distinguishing marks: none.
Notes: He does not wear glasses. Has a metal Casio watch on his left wrist. The message said that second suspect lives in a district of Khartoum.

The third suspect:

Name: Husayn Ahmad Shu'ith 'Ali
Nationality: Egyptian.
Place of Birth: Qina, Egypt.
Date of Birth: 22 September 1964.
Previous occupation: Student at the Asyut University.
Present occupation: Member of the Islamic Grouping.
Past record: Arrested and tried in four cases. Absconded to an Arab country in 1991.

The message said he entered Sudan on the day of the incident aboard a Sudanese Airlines plane and he possessed a forged Ethiopian passport as well as a forged Sudanese passport.

The Sudanese Minister concluded his statement saying: How then can we cooperate with Egypt and Ethiopia? We ask for more information and we are prepared to offer all help. I have previously expressed Sudan's readiness to cooperate in this field since the very day of the Addis Ababa incident. We and Egypt are being targeted. There are many quarters that are trying to harm our security and our stability.

Minister Accuses Egypt of Harboring 'Terrorists'

EA2109214395 *Omdurman Sudan Television Network in Arabic* 1900 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Foreign Minister Ali 'Uthman Muhammad Taha returned to the country this evening after leading Sudan's delegation to the Arab League meeting in Cairo, which ended this morning. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Taha has announced that a great effort is currently being made to contain the outstanding areas of disagreement between Sudan and Egypt. He affirmed Sudan's wish that these efforts will contain the crisis between the countries.

In an interview with the AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT magazine, His Excellency said the Egyptian Government had continued to reject this [as heard] mediation. His Excellency said that despite accusing Sudan of terrorism, Egypt itself harbors terrorists, as shown by its support for the Sudanese opposition and giving it complete legality in its violent campaign against the Sudanese Government. He said Egypt had continued to receive representatives of the rebel movement and the defunct communist party, both of which advocate violence in their campaign against the Sudanese Government.

He again denied Egypt's repeated claims that Sudan supports Islamists and that it was involved in the attempts to assassinate Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. He said information received by Sudan from Ethiopia regarding the suspects in the assassination attempt was inadequate.

Opposition Reports Demonstrations in South Khartoum

EA2109153595 *(Clandestine) Voice of Sudan Voice of the National Democratic Alliance in Arabic* 1300 GMT 20 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Our sources inside the country say that public demonstrations continued in districts in south Khartoum on the evening of 16 September. The sources add that the people's uprising and mass resistance will continue until freedom and democratic pluralism is restored, and the government of the National Islamic Front is toppled.

Calls For New Demonstrations

EA2109140595 *(Clandestine) Voice of Sudan Voice of the National Democratic Alliance in Arabic* 1300 GMT 20 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The internal people's resistance has issued an important statement addressed to the masses of the Sudanese people in towns and villages, calling on them to come out in to a mass demonstration that coincides with the visit of a delegation of human rights organizations to Sudan tomorrow.

The statement said al-Turabi's government is based on six elements of filth: lies, oppression, arbitrariness, ignorance, propaganda, and terrorism. The statement described [word indistinct] al-Turabi and his regime as barbaric in the manner he dealt with the demonstrations

of the sons and daughters of the Sudanese people, who are seeking freedom and justice.

At a time when there is talk about an Islamic government and a government with a mission, [words indistinct], the release of political prisoners, and a desire for national dialogue, the Sudanese Government has dis-

missed 2,000 employees of the Bank of Khartoum, and killed 15 students and citizens while hospitals overflow with many severely wounded people, while hundreds are thrown into detention centers and prisons. [passage omitted]

Bahrain**Importation, Manufacture of Satellite Dishes Banned***JN2109171195 Manama WAKH in Arabic
0900 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Manama, 21 Sep (WAKH)—It has been decided to stop the licenses on importing all kinds of devices, components, and spare parts of satellite dishes via all Bahraini land, sea, and air outlets.

This ban came in a decision issued by Muhammad Ibrahim al-Mutawwa', minister of state for cabinet affairs. The decision bans the use of these dishes, whether imported or manufactured locally, as of 19 September 1995.

The decision also stipulates that the concerned departments in the Radio and Television Corporation should work for promoting the subscription service regarding the reception of current television programs—the microwave service—in a way that will better serve the subscribers.

Kuwait**Iraqi Defector's CNN Interview Criticized***LD2209124295 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in Arabic
1000 GMT 22 Sep 95*

[Unattributed commentary]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Husayn Kamil, former Iraqi minister of industry and director of the Military Industrialization Organization, in an interview with CNN, admitted for the first time that the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait was wrong. By saying this, Husayn Kamil is following the same deceptive policy pursued by the Iraqi regime.

First of all, by making this admission five years after the invasion, Husayn Kamil is underestimating peoples' intelligence. For many years he was one of the pillars of the Iraqi regime and one of the main planners of the treacherous Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Second, his description of the invasion as wrong is an understatement. That invasion was a sin and a vile crime which cannot be ignored under any circumstances. It was a crime against neighborliness, humanity and all values, traditions, and conventions. When he describes the burning of Kuwaiti oil wells as unacceptable, he is speaking from a military rather than moral point of view. He has confirmed that the crime was a planned and deliberate act and also confirmed that it was not a defensive action. Husayn Kamil was behind the crime; authenticated documents have shown that he personally issued the order to the Iraqi forces to set the oil wells

on fire, perpetrating the most vile environmental crime known to the world throughout its history.

Thus, what Husayn Kamil said in his television interview exposed his lies, the truth about him, and his desire to exonerate himself from the crimes he has committed when he was in a position of power — crimes which cannot be forgiven. [passage omitted]

Yemen**President Receives Greeting From Saudi King Fahd***JN2109182795 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network
in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[Cable from King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia to Lieutenant General President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih; date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] Your Excellency brother Lt. Gen. 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic of Yemen, may God protect you.

I have received your excellency's cable on your crossing of Saudi air space en route to your fraternal country. While thanking you and appreciating your feelings and fraternal wishes, I send you my profound congratulations on the good results of the tests your excellency has undergone.

I wish you continued good health and happiness, and the sisterly Yemeni people continued progress and prosperity. At the same time, I emphasize the fraternal relations between our two sisterly countries which constantly look forward to enhancing these relations. Please accept my greetings.

[Signed] Your brother Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques and the king of Saudi Arabia

Opposition Leader Pledges 'Peaceful Means'*MM2109143895 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic
20 Sep 95 p 5*

[Interview with Abd-al-Rahman al-Jifri, leader of the National Opposition Front and the League of the Sons of Yemen, by Nizar Daw-al-Na'im in London on 19 September: "No Alternative to Dialogue To Achieve National Reconciliation in Yemen"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Daw-al-Na'im] We have seen your cable to President 'Ali Abdallah Salih. Would you like to comment on the background, and does this mean that you recognize his legitimacy?

[Al-Jifri] We differentiate between political rivalry and the duty to inquire about a sick person's health and

to visit him, whatever the relationship with him. This is how we have been taught and been brought up, according to Islamic and Arab morals and values.

However, this does not mean recognition of his legitimacy as president. He is the president of the regime only because of the legitimacy of the status quo. Ours is not a personal dispute but a disagreement over the method and style of government and over national issues, including how to establish unity and the framework for it.

[Daw-al-Na'im] Are there any contacts between you and the president similar to those initiated by your colleagues abroad?

[Al-Jifri] We have no direct contacts with the president. Personally, as the leader of the Yemeni National Opposition Front (MAWJ) and leader of the League of the Sons of Yemen Party (RA'Y), I represent the front or the party that I lead in any contacts that I undertake. Consequently, my position and my responsibility to represent everyone compel me to adopt the common cause of the nation and that of the people I represent. I must not act on my own accord. I have no personal issues or demands to address.

[Daw-al-Na'im] You complain, however, that some of your private property in Sanaa has been confiscated. These are personal issues!

[Al-Jifri] Yes, my home in Sanaa was entirely pillaged and all my possessions in Sanaa were confiscated, including houses and land in which I invested more than \$6 million over five years. That, however, is a trivial matter compared to the general issue of the homeland and will not be broached in any contacts, because people like myself should not address such personal issues, as I represent the opposition movement. Our people suffer from hunger and fear, and those properties, in my eyes, are not worth a single drop of blood or a second of our people's suffering. If we manage to find a solution to the people's plight and the current crisis, then everything will be easier for us and, God willing, things can only change for the better. Our properties and everyone's properties were confiscated over 25 years in the South, and neither the confiscation nor the confiscator has endured.

[Daw-al-Na'im] What are you seeking to achieve?

[Al-Jifri] We have said more than once that there is no alternative to dialogue to achieve a comprehensive national reconciliation or a national alignment that would achieve balance, equal citizenship, decentralization, and justice and would establish the foundations of a democratic state in which peaceful rotation of power was applied and public and individual rights and the five logical predicates [al-kulliyyat al-khams] were safeguarded.

All that is mentioned in the Pledge and Accord document. We will then progress from cockfights to a battle of wits and be able to choose our rulers in complete freedom. We will end the practice of moving a ruler from the palace to the grave or to prison or exile and instead allow a ruler to move from the government palace to his residence honored, contented, safe, and respected.

[Daw-al-Na'im] What means do you have for achieving that?

[Al-Jifri] Only peaceful means, to muster a popular rejection of what is in place and acceptance of what is required. We will use all means of peaceful persuasion and seek the help of the forces of good, Arab and international, to exert pressure on the regime to accept what is right and abandon what is wrong.

[Daw-al-Na'im] And if the regime does not comply, and peaceful work does not produce results, would you consider using violence?

[Al-Jifri] That is neither in our nature nor in our policy. We would sustain the people's rejection and escalate it to generate a wide popular movement which would exert gradual pressure culminating in civil disobedience. We would be apprehensive that people would drop the reins and lose patience and that organized violent movements would emerge or random acts of violence would be committed as a reaction to the regime's intransigence and its rejection of all peaceful solutions. This would lead our country to catastrophe and fragmentation, God forbid, and this would be the regime's responsibility in the eyes of history.

[Daw-al-Na'im] What information do you have concerning reports of a conflict between the coalition parties, namely the [General People's] Congress and Reform [Grouping]?

[Al-Jifri] I do not believe that there is a conflict at the leadership level. There are signs, however, that the leaderships of both parties create conflict between the middle ranks and bases of both parties to eliminate some leaders from outside the circle, keep people busy, and push them to take sides in the conflict, in order to justify retaliatory actions. This is a dangerous ploy, which will lead, if extended, to the leadership's loss of control and thus to the fire that will consume everybody.

[Daw-al-Na'im] Would you be prepared to meet the president or officials of the regime?

[Al-Jifri] We are already demanding a dialogue and national reconciliation and alignment. This will only come about through meetings that will enable us to achieve these goals, based on clear foundations and not secretly or separately.

[Daw-al-Na'im] Would you care to comment on the reports of contacts between Salim Salih Muhammad and Haydar al-'Attas with the president?

[Al-Jifri] I was told about some of them. They are still at the personal level, and I doubt that either of the brothers will go beyond what we propose despite some issues and special ties between them, going back to the days when they shared power. Our colleagues are aware, however, that separate deals will achieve nothing for them or their cause. They also know that the brother president is an expert at singling out individuals or parties on a one-to-one basis in order to weaken everyone and achieve what he wants and not what they want. He succeeded in that during the crisis and prior to and during the war, and we will not allow that to happen again. Everybody has had enough experiences and lessons to ponder.

[Daw-al-Na'im] There have recently been some rumors about a disagreement within the MAWJ leadership concerning the RA'Y and the leaders of the Socialist Party. Is there any truth in that?

[Al-Jifri] This matter is being exaggerated. The Sanaa regime is trying to blow this out of proportion in the hope of exploiting any rift. The truth however, is that it is natural to have a divergence of views. These are within acceptable limits and are not between the RA'Y and the Socialist Party but between some individuals and the rest of the MAWJ elements. These differences have been resolved in a normal way and have no negative effects on the MAWJ movement or on the relations between its members — in fact, just the opposite. The Socialist Party brothers were in power for 25 years, and they are making good efforts to adapt to the new order in the opposition ranks. Despite the difficulty of their situation, I am confident that they can do it.

[Daw-al-Na'im] President 'Ali Salih said in an interview with Radio Monte-Carlo on 18 September that Salim Salih and Abu-Bakr al-'Attas had started to leave the National Opposition Front. Has this happened?

[Al-Jifri] Neither of them has informed me of that as MAWJ leader. On the contrary, I do not believe that they would hand in their resignations from MAWJ to the president of the republic, whose regime they oppose. Membership of MAWJ is not for individuals but for parties. According to MAWJ records, they are representatives of the Socialist Party in the movement, and any party has the right to change its representatives to the movement's organization or to maintain their connection with it through their association or party.

Therefore, their contacts with the president are of a personal nature and relate to issues and special relationships going back to when they were in power. But when the public cause is discussed, I believe that they would put forward MAWJ's demands for a comprehensive national reconciliation.

[Daw-al-Na'im] President 'Ali Abdallah Salih told AL-HAYAH in an interview published yesterday that he will instruct you to pay Salim Salih's allowances. Would you care to comment on that?

[Al-Jifri] I have no objection. Let him send me [the money] and I will deliver it to brother Salim Salih; or, if he would like me to pay it on his behalf, I will even do that. They owe me \$930,000, which is the price of the house that the president requested from Salim Salih, which has not been paid, and which the president gave to Vice President 'Abd-Rabbuh Mansur. The account is mounting up and the president is paying.

Al-Kabariti Denial of Statement on Defector Cited

JN2109135495 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1310 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Amman, 21 Sep (INA)—Jordanian Foreign Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Kabariti emphasized that the statement attributed to him and published in the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-SIYASAH was distorted and published in an absolutely inaccurate manner.

The JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY quoted al-Kabariti as denying that he had said anything in that interview about the future of Iraq or changing the Iraqi regime. He also denied saying anything about Husayn Kamil.

Commentary on Non-Proliferation Treaty, Israel

95LH0221A Baghdad ALIF BA' in Arabic 21 Jun 95
p 12

[Article by Samir al-'Izzawi: "Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty: Who Gave Zionist Criminality a Free Hand?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] After months of hesitation, mutual recrimination, and sharp debate, it was decided at the United Nations on 13 May to extend the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty indefinitely. This is what the nuclear countries have been seeking since 1968, when they demanded that the treaty promulgated that year be deemed "everlasting"—to guarantee the permanence of their nuclear arsenal and debar other countries from acquiring such weapons!

The issue that has aroused the amazement of most atomic weapons monitoring experts, the indefinite extension of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, came by unanimous consensus of the 175 countries that participated in the conference—without any need to take a vote.

Political observers and experts in the field of nuclear weapons say there would have been no such consensus but for pressure by the United States throughout the previous months of the year. Most of the world's countries that do not possess an arsenal of atomic weapons had initially announced their opposition to the "double standards" policy that the United States follows with the support of some Western countries. Perhaps the biggest example that these countries cited, arraiging the United States and charging it with unfairness, involves U.S. protection of the Zionist entity. The only nuclear power in the Middle East, this entity need not abide by any treaty limiting its ability to produce these weapons. Yet the United States will not allow the Arab states even to think of building nuclear reactors for peaceful nonmilitary purposes.

One section of the treaty that was extended indefinitely implies that the world's five main nuclear powers will seek to reduce their nuclear arsenal. No one, however, believes this provision. Although the same countries (United States, France, Great Britain, Russia, and China) agreed to take the steps necessary under this section when the treaty was promulgated about 27 years ago in 1968, reality has demonstrated that these countries—especially the United States—have a larger arsenal of such weapons today than when the treaty came into effect in 1970.

Between Washington and Tel Aviv

Time and events have demonstrated how unlikely it is that the United States will abandon its policy of total partiality toward the Zionist entity. Even if we pass over many political positions and decisions by successive U.S. administrations to support this misshapen entity from its establishment in 1948 until the present and U.S. attempts to do everything to facilitate Israel's becoming a "power" by tipping the scale in its favor in any confrontation with the Arabs, the nuclear weapons issue by itself is enough to demonstrate this total partiality. Despite all the criticisms of the United States for intentionally ignoring the Zionist entity's possession of atomic weapons and blunt refusal to join or recognize the nuclear treaty, the United States has paid no attention to any of this; except that to placate certain people it agreed that the signing conference at the United Nations building might adopt a resolution inviting the Zionist entity—nothing definite mentioned—to join the treaty and enter into a Middle East nuclear weapons free zone!—and this despite the fact that specifically U.S. reports have confirmed on many occasions that the Zionist entity has developed about 200 nuclear warheads, although it has never admitted publicly to possessing a nuclear arsenal!

The Zionist entity, with support from the United States, quickly affirmed its position of declining to join the treaty. It stipulated that all governments in the Arab region would have to sign a peace treaty with it first; only then would this "misshapen entity" join the treaty! Faced with this U.S. policy, many international parties are asking how one can trust U.S. promises and believe U.S. claims to sponsor and promote peace while the United States in fact demonstrates its total partiality toward the Zionist entity that has been working for about 35 years to develop and produce nuclear weapons.

Observers and experts know well that the Zionist entity put the French-built Dimona reactor into operation in the Negev desert in 1960. They are quite certain that this entity became a nuclear power by 1962, that by 1973 it had about 13 atomic bombs, which it threatened to use

during the October war of that year, and that the Dimona reactor is still producing atomic bombs. Furthermore, this entity is producing chemical and biological weapons of mass destruction with funds from U.S. aid and with the expertise and designs of U.S. engineers and scientists!

Since the nuclear Weapons Non-Proliferation Treaty went into effect on 5 March 1970 and the International Atomic Energy Agency was established, the number of signatory countries has reached about 178. However, the Zionist entity has remained outside the agency and the treaty, unfettered and free to do as it will, unmonitored and with the full protection of the United States, which marshals support and backing to maintain the destructive weapons that it and its friends possess, while seeking to debar many of the world's countries (especially the Arab states) from acquiring nuclear deterrent weapons or even peaceful nuclear capability. In this way it can keep these countries under the nuclear hammer of the Zionist entity and keep them backward and incapable of creating a balance with the Zionist entity at any turning point.

Papers Urge Iran To 'Let Bygones Be Bygones'

JN2209101595 Baghdad INA in Arabic
0756 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 22 Sep (INA) — Two Iraqi newspapers assert that dialogue and mutual respect are the best means to establish close and firm good-neighborly ties between Iraq and Iran.

In an editorial today on the anniversary of the all-out retaliation against the aggression of the Iranian regime, AL-THAWRAH, speaking for the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, says: Iran can do nothing but resort to reason and draw lessons from history if it wants objective relations and a just and comprehensive peace between the two countries.

The newspaper recalls what Iraq wanted right from the start and what Iraq repeatedly cautioned the rulers of Iran about during the years of the second al-Qadisiyah through the messages addressed by President Saddam Husayn to the peoples and rulers of Iran.

The paper adds: President Saddam Husayn has repeatedly asserted this Iraqi position in many of his speeches, the last of which was his speech on the seventh anniversary of the Great Victory Day. In that speech, the president made it clear that establishing cordial and peaceful relations between Iraq and Iran depends on the goodwill of the rulers of Iran regarding questions related to the rights of Iraq and its people.

The newspaper says Iran now knows the uselessness of aggression against Iraq, since it tried this over the years of the second al-Qadisiyah. Iran collided then with Iraq's steel wall. Therefore, the Iranian regime should seriously reconsider its stands, instead of repeating actions which prove that it did not learn its lesson. Take, for example, the Iranian regime's active participation in one of the chapters of the Atlantic 30-state aggression against Iraq when it pushed its elements to help the Americans and spread chaos in the governorates of Iraq.

The newspaper stresses that Iraq is an impregnable fortress that is too tough for the aggressors to penetrate. Iraq derives its strength from the faith of its sons and their determination to valiantly defend their country against enemies.

AL-THAWRAH concludes: In spite of everything, the Iranian regime still has a good chance to learn lessons from the bitter experience and establish normal and cordial relations with Iraq.

In its editorial, AL-'IRAQ urges Iran to let bygones be bygones and build normal relations between the two countries based on mutual respect and noninterference in internal affairs. The paper urges the Iranian regime to abandon its policy of aggression, maneuvering, and exposed seasonal opportunistic tricks.

The paper adds: Since Iraq's victory on 8 August 1988, the past seven years have seen many serious and constructive Iraqi initiatives and proposals. Had the Iranian side sincerely responded to these initiatives, the two countries would have overcome their differences and ushered in a new era of relations. This would have served their common interests and maintained security and peace in the Arabian Gulf region and spared the region foreign intervention.

The paper urges the rulers of Iran to quit their ambitions and plans to expand at the expense of Arab land and waters and to stop repeating false and provocative slogans and the tune of "exporting the revolution" if they want to be a vital part and a defense power, away from ambitions in the Arabian Gulf region. This will not happen without building normal relations with Iraq, the invincible Arab bulwark and the eastern gate for the protection of the security and safety of the Arab nation.

AL-'IRAQ also urges the rulers of Iran to heed colonialist threats, which spare no one. These threats can only be confronted and aborted through fruitful cooperation among all parties concerned, stemming from the principle of good-neighborliness and common interests.

Paper: Referendum 'Progressive Step' to Democracy

*JN2109132295 Baghdad INA in English
1030 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baghdad, Sep 21, INA — AL-THAWRAH paper confirmed that the popular referendum of nominating President Saddam Husayn for the post of presidency represents an accurate choice and progressive step on the way of ending the embargo and foiling U.S. and its agents dreams in the region.

In its editorial issued today, the daily AL-THAWRAH said that nominating President Saddam Husayn represents a real expression of the Iraqi people's will in its choices .

It added that the adoption of the Iraqi leadership of the referendum as one of the basic democratic choices in the current stage in spite of the difficult circumstances because of the U.S. imposed embargo for six years emphasizing the depth and permanent faith of the leadership in adopting the democracy as a basic way in life.

It mentioned that all the Iraqi people believe firmly that President Saddam Husayn represents its ambitions and hopes pointing out that the aggressive forces on top of which is the United States know that the personality

of President Saddam Husayn represents a unique and distinguished situation in confronting the imperialist schemes of hegemony and plundering.

Bomb Explodes in Umm Qasr, Injures 1 Woman

*JN2109164295 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1505 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 21 Sep (INA)—A woman in Umm Qasr in the al-Basrah Governorate, southern Iraq sustained various injuries when a projectile, dropped during the 1991 anti-Iraq 30-state aggression, detonated.

The correspondent of the Iraqi News Agency in the governorate said that citizen 'Uwayzah Hamdan Jabbar, aged 40, sustained various injuries when she stepped on a strange object while she was grazing her cattle outside the district's residential area.

The woman was taken to Umm al-Ma'arik Hospital on board a UN helicopter whose crew spotted the woman who was covered with blood.

It should be recalled that several citizens have died when land mines and unexploded bombs went off. The Civil Defense heroes have defused thousands of projectiles and land mines.

Iranian Hijacker Remanded in Custody for 15 Days*TA2109133795 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1300 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Iranian air steward who hijacked the Iranian plane was remanded in custody in Elat for 15 days. The hijacker, Reza Jabbari, admitted to all the charges against him, including air piracy, hijacking, illegal possession of weapons, and infiltration. He claimed that he committed these transgressions in order to escape from Iran because of its oppressive regime and the authorities' attitude toward the public. Our correspondent Yehudit Silberstein reports the hijacker said he feels well; he has no complaints and no special requests.

Hijacker Interviewed on Motives, Plans*TA2109175895 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1605 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[Report by Yehudit Silberstein]

[FBIS Translated Text] Reza Jabbari, the hijacker of the Iranian plane who was remanded in custody for 15 days in Elat today, was interviewed by us through several Persian-speaking Israelis who offered us their interpretation services.

Jabbari told us that he first thought of defecting from Iran some six months ago. He started preparing various plans, but two months ago, he decided to defect by hijacking a plane.

Jabbari claims that for the past 10 years, he has been serving in the Iranian Army and bears the rank of colonel. He says that until recently, he was a member of the crew of a Hercules plane, before being posted as an air steward on an Iranian Army plane which was leased to a domestic airliner.

Even before he carried out his plan, he realized that it was dangerous and could exact a toll in human lives; however, he could think of no other way to escape from Iran. He entered the cockpit as the plane was nearing the island of Kish and, armed with a revolver, ordered the pilot to fly to the city of Zahran in Saudi Arabia. The experience of his military service, however, led him to believe that the Saudis would not allow him to land, and this is indeed what happened. After the Saudis refused to approve the landing, he ordered the pilot to head directly toward Israel.

Despite a warning from Jabbari, the pilot alerted the two armed security men. Jabbari claims he had no alternative but to fire one warning shot to show that his intentions were serious.

He was in the cockpit during the landing, while the two armed guards were at the other end of the plane. He opened the cockpit door, jumped out, and ran toward the Israelis, his gun still in his hands.

Jabbari left three brothers and a mother behind in Iran. He is aware of the fact that the Iranian authorities may harm them. He says, however, that he could not bear life in Iran any longer. Jabbari spoke freely and at length and is interested in expressing himself in public.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1500 GMT on 21 September carries a similar report by Channel 2 Television political correspondent 'Imanu'el Rosen, who reports that Jabbari said that "when he was planning the hijacking, he had no doubt that he would try to get to Israel, because he thought that of all the countries in the region, Israel is the only place where he would stand a chance of not being extradited to Iran. He said that some of the Iranian passengers with whom he discussed the issue during the flight, prior to the landing, agreed that if they had to be hijacked, they, too, would choose Israel as their destination."

[Rosen says the motives for Jabbari's act were complex, "but the primary ones were the catastrophic economic situation and the very difficult political situation in Iran. He did not deny that he had personal reasons as well."

[Rosen adds that Jabbari has not yet decided whether to request political asylum in Israel and that "he is uncertain about the future. He said that, initially, he had not considered the option of remaining in Israel, but the wonderful treatment, as he put it, he has received during his three days in Israel has definitely put the idea on the agenda."]

Mubarak Aide, Rabin Said To Hold 'Secret' Meeting*TA2009115195 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
20 Sep 95 p A1*

[Report by Aluf Ben]

[FBIS Translated Text] Usamah al-Baz, President Mubarak's political adviser, yesterday arrived for a brief visit to Israel where he held a meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. The meeting revolved around two issues: the difficulties in the negotiations with the Palestinians at Taba, and the murder of Egyptian POW's in the 1956 and 1967 wars.

Al-Baz brought a message from Mubarak regarding the POW issue and discussed with Rabin ways of resolving the issue and removing it from the agenda of Israeli-Egyptian relations. The Egyptian leadership wants Israel to take a step that would enable it to pacify

Egyptian public opinion and alleviate pressure from the opposition regarding this issue.

Regarding the peace process, al-Baz said that Egypt wants to encourage the sides to complete the interim agreement.

Sources in Rabin's bureau tried to keep the visit secret and refused to comment on the content of the meeting.

Al-Baz has visited Israel several times over the last few months to relay messages from Mubarak to Rabin. These visits have been kept secret.

Peace Watch: PA 'Violating' Extradition Agreement

TA2209081995 *Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew*
0505 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Peace Watch, an organization monitoring the implementation of the Oslo agreement, has published a thorough report on Israel's and the Palestinian Authority's [PA] extradition of suspects for security and criminal offenses. The report says that in contravention of the agreement, the PA does not intend to hand over any of the suspects Israel has requested. Our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem has the details:

[Ben-Menahem] The report says that the PA has not filed a single extradition request so far, while Israel has filed 10 requests for persons suspected of security offenses and 11 requests of a criminal nature. The Palestinians responded to five requests for the extradition of suspected criminals, but did not respond to any of the security-related requests.

The report examined statements by PA Justice Minister Purayh Abu-Middayn and Colonel Rashid Abu-Shibak, deputy head of the Palestinian Preventive Security Service in the Gaza Strip. Both presented a clear Palestinian policy according to which no one suspected of security offenses would be handed over to Israel or tried by a Palestinian court. Also, the PA has not yet responded to some of the requests even though they were filed a long time ago.

In two cases, it is clear that Israel has exclusive trial rights and that the PA trials could not replace Israeli legal proceedings. The cases involve the two members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, suspected of committing the Wadi al-Qilt murders, and Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] terrorist Yusuf Malakhi, who murdered Shlomi Qapah and Gil Revah in Ramla.

To conclude the report, Peace Watch says that based upon the details it has presented, one must conclude that the PA does not intend to extradite any of the suspects

Israel has requested and that it is clearly violating the agreement.

U.S. Official's Grasp of Mideast Said 'Inadequate'

TA2109132095 *Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew*
21 Sep 95 p B1

[Commentary by 'Aqiva Eldar in Washington: "A Western Middle East Style"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The important aspect of the long-awaited signing ceremony at the White House just might be the setting — the Jordanian king and the Egyptian president watching yet another handshake between Yitzhaq Rabin and Yasir 'Arafat. The American hosts had better take a close look at the grimace that will appear on President Mubarak's face when it is his turn to shake hands with King Husayn. The cameras just might help them understand that the Middle East is far more complex than Hollywood. The good guys can turn bad halfway through the movie.

When Hafiz al-Asad watches the ceremony on his television set, he will not be paying attention to 'Arafat or the security arrangements the Palestinians will have attained in Hebron. Like President Mubarak and Saudi King Fahd, al-Asad will also worry about the U.S.-Jordan-Israel triangle. Ever since Husayn Kamil and his entourage defected from Iraq to Jordan, U.S. diplomacy has been busy dispelling his fear that Jordan — with Israel's help and under U.S. auspices — will seize control of Iraq.

Al-Asad did not join the coalition against Saddam because the USSR fell apart, his seeking U.S. favors, or the invasion of Kuwait. Bordering on Syria, Iraq presents the biggest military threat to Damascus. A bitter struggle is being waged between these two regimes. The last thing al-Asad would like to see is a pro-Western leader in Baghdad, and he is doing his best to frustrate any move that could lead to that.

The meeting Mark Parris, the president's adviser on Middle East affairs, and Robert Pelletreau, an aide to the secretary of state, held with the Iraqi defector in Amman and the fact that they (unintentionally) skipped Damascus was bluntly insensitive and a demonstration of an inadequate understanding of Middle East plots. Now, the Americans have to work hard to calm the Syrians and prevent harm to the peace process, which is an American interest. Someone should have considered the possibility that, operating in a culture of conspiracies, al-Asad might suspect that the Jews who control America might exploit the threat to seize Iraq to use it as a whip to make him surrender in the negotiations with Israel.

Even Israel, busy with the process of being accepted into the Middle East, found it hard to believe that great Egypt and rich Saudi Arabia are currently disturbed by King Husayn's glances at Iraq. The defection to Jordan and the transparent U.S. effort to turn Amman, which is packed with Israeli tourists, into a lever with which to cast out Saddam made Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait rally around Saddam Husayn. Egypt finds it very convenient that Iraq, its old rival in the competition for the leadership of the Arab world, has been paralyzed for the past decade. Mubarak has no interest in seeing Iraq recover, and he is even less interested in seeing Husayn become the West's darling.

The Saudis also made it clear to the United States that they will not lend their hand to the effort to overthrow Saddam. Writing in the *NEW YORK TIMES*, Tom Friedman said that the embargo on Iraq guarantees the Saudis oil income, but it is not enough to finance its deterrent force and U.S. military moves vis-a-vis Iraq. The movement of forces in October 1994 added \$14 billion to the Saudi foreign debt.

Saudi Arabia has not yet paid its Gulf war debt and, for the first time ever, the International Monetary Fund is coming to its rescue. President Clinton held four conversations with King Fahd about the big airplane deal. Despite the fact that a year has passed since he made the festive announcement that Saudi Arabia will be buying \$6 billion worth of Boeing airplanes, the king still promises that the papers are on his desk.

Fahd would rather see Saddam in a besieged Iraq than King Husayn in greater Iraq. The warning lights in Riyadh started flashing at the end of 1990 when, after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, King Husayn summoned a group of Bedouin notables to a royal tent in south Jordan and told them: "If you respect me, do not call me your majesty, call me Sharif Husayn, and if you want to respect me even more, call me Husayn." Since then, the Hashemite king has not stopped uttering statements that the Saudi court — the guardian of the two Muslim holy sites — interprets as hints by the Jordanian king that he aspires to reinstate the rights of his dynasty, which stretch as far as the Arabian Peninsula.

In a speech he delivered after the defection, King Husayn did not forget to mention the family ties between the Jordanian and Iraqi Hashemites. Family members have been cropping up in the Persian Gulf and Europe, making claims to the Iraqi throne. The Arabs know that these claims are not without a legal and historic basis: In the Iraqi-Jordanian federation, the Jordanian monarch was second in command and considered to be an heir to the Iraqi partner. The American's problems (which are shared by those who

depend on their mediation services in the Middle East) are that even those whom they had cultivated now doubt their integrity. Between speeches, Clinton will have time to ponder how the sheriff turned out to be the villain in this story.

Local Russian Mafia Boss Detained at Airport

TA2209093095 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT
in Hebrew 22 Sep 95 p 5

[Report by Buki Na'e]

[FBIS Translated Text] At Ben-Gurion Airport yesterday, the police detained a man described as one of the bosses of the Russian Mafia in Israel.

The man, who was attempting to flee the country, was detained thanks to an arrest warrant delivered to the airport after he had gone underground. Heads of the international crime desk at the Tel Aviv Police believe the man is one of the bosses of a ring that imports Russian prostitutes to Israel, sells them to brothels in Tel Aviv, manufactures counterfeit Israeli identity cards for them, and defrauds the authorities by collecting the women's "immigrant absorption basket."

The man will be arraigned this morning, and the police are also searching for several of his associates. Tel Aviv District Police Chief Gabi Last says the gang "has been trafficking in people."

A few days ago, the police central unit issued several arrest warrants against individuals suspected of running the import and sale of prostitutes. The "business bosses" subsequently went underground, and the police have apprehended only one suspect. The man, Aleksey Steiner, was brought before the duty arrest justice in Tel Aviv and charged with aggravated extortion and counterfeiting. He was remanded for seven days.

Paper: Allegations on Russian Mafia 'Unfounded'

TA2209080895 Tel Aviv VESTI in Russian
21-22 Sep 95 p 2

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] In the opinion of most authoritative representatives of the Russian-speaking community in Israel, the allegation that the Mafia has been financing the "Russians'" social and political activities is of a manifestly political nature and is unfounded. At the same time, the editorial board of VESTI has well-founded information that about a month ago, a certain well-informed person sent a letter to Mr. Shahal, who seems to be so very concerned about the reports on the activities of the Russian Mafia in Israel, offering to apprise him of one of the Mafia's operations in Israel. Yet the police minister did not deign to respond to the offer. Likewise, the government

failed to respond to the VESTI suggestion to set up a governmental commission of inquiry into the activities of the Russian Mafia, which would both constitute an effective countermeasure and ensure that the battle against the Mafia is not exploited for the achievement of unrelated objectives.

Youth Wounded in Nabulus; Riots Continue

TA2109194095 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in 1800 GMT Hebrew 21 Sep 95

[Video report by correspondent in the territories Yoram Kohen]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] An Arab youth was seriously wounded during severe riots in Nabulus today. Two youths were killed during riots in the city yesterday. Nabulus was put under curfew this morning, and Israelis were barred from entering the city. Our correspondent in the territories Yoram Kohen reports:

[Begin Kohen recording] [passage omitted] A three-day mourning strike was declared in Nabulus today. Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] activists called on the residents to strike and to confront the security forces. The city was in chaos today: Youths threw stones, torched tires, and erected barricades. The security forces used tear gas and rubber bullets. An Arab youth was seriously wounded in the head and taken to the hospital. Several of the rioters were detained. Downtown Nabulus has been under curfew since this morning. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Channel 2 Television Network in Hebrew at 1800 GMT on 21 September carries a similar report by Yoram Binur, adding: "Palestinian sources in Nabulus say that after tomorrow's Friday prayers at the mosques, the riots will resume."]

Soldier, 'Terrorist' Wounded in Kidnap Attempt

TA2109191895 Jerusalem Channel 2 Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 21 Sep 95

[Announcer-read report]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] An attempt to kidnap an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldier took place a short time ago near Yoqne'am. Initial reports indicate that the soldier was waiting for a ride when a car with two Arab passengers stopped near him. One of the passengers got out and threatened the soldier at gunpoint. The soldier grabbed the weapon and fired at the Arab from close range. Our correspondent Ya'ir Kahel reports from the site of the incident that the second kidnapper managed to escape and that a manhunt is currently under way to capture him.

In relation to this, our military correspondent Roni Daniyel reports that security elements have received many warnings about intentions on the part of Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and Islamic Jihad squads to kidnap soldiers in a bid to negotiate the release of Hamas prisoners, mainly Shaykh Ahmad Yasin. [passage omitted]

The IDF soldier, who struggled with his assailants, was slightly wounded and was released from 'Afula's Ha'emeq Hospital after receiving treatment.

The terrorist, who suffered moderate wounds, is being treated at Haifa's Rambam Hospital. The pursuit of the second terrorist is continuing.

'Terrorists' Fire at Border Police Near Jericho

TA2209103395 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1000 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] This morning, terrorists attacked a border policeman at a roadblock south of Jericho. Our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem reports that the terrorists arrived by car from Jericho, stopped some 100 meters away from the roadblock, fired a volley of Kalashnikov rounds at the policeman, and fled to Jericho. The policeman was not hurt.

Shortly after the incident, the Palestinian police notified the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] that one person suspected of the shooting had been apprehended in the refugee camp of 'Aqabat Jab and that the identity of his two accomplices is known. The IDF closed the entrances to Jericho, banning Israeli vehicles from entering the city. Our correspondent Gay Qotev reports that the IDF demanded that the inhabitants of the ancient synagogue in Jericho leave the place, but that they refused.

Defense establishment sources reacted by saying that the terror attack is very grave and that the incident once again proves that Jericho has become not only a safe haven for fugitives, but also a launching pad for terrorist attacks against Israel.

Third Way, SHAS To Cooperate on Peace Plan

TA2109132395 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 21 Sep 95 p 4

[Report by Amir Neuman and Uri Rodriguez-Garcia]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Labor Knesset Member [MK] 'Imanu'el Zissman says he has decided to withdraw from Labor and join the party that the Third Way movement will establish. According to Zissman, "a party that cannot abide by 'red lines' is no longer my party." [passage omitted]

It was learned that Third Way leaders and SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] faction members yesterday decided to cooperate with the intention of creating wide support for Third Way's plan for a permanent arrangement with the Palestinian Authority.

At the meeting at MK Arye Der'i's office, SHAS MK's told the Third Way members that they intend to vote against the Oslo B accord when it is brought to the Knesset plenum. At the same time, they said that their position will be presented to Rabbi 'Ovadya Yosef for approval. [passage omitted]

The Third Way members presented the SHAS MK's with the map of the permanent arrangement according to their concept, including extensive territorial compromise while keeping the decisive majority of settlements in their place.

It was learned that SHAS members are convinced about the Third Way plan and have agreed on cooperation in the Knesset and outside it in order to enlist public support for it.

Labor, Third Way Said 'About To Sever All Ties'
TA2209091995 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 22 Sep 95 p 5

[Report by Sarah Honig]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MK [Knesset Member] 'Imanu'el Zissman announced yesterday that he and MK Avigdor Qahalani will leave the Labor Party when the Third Way declares itself a party, but added that "even if that does not happen, we will in any case vote against the Oslo-2 pact."

Zissman spoke in reaction to a gathering of Labor members who are also members of the Third Way Council. They were convened by Labor Secretary-General Nisim Zvili in an effort to get them to actively campaign against the Third Way turning itself into a party, thereby pressuring Qahalani and Zissman.

However, out of the 60 Laborites invited, only 10 showed up. Zissman was one of the absentees. Qahalani is abroad.

Zvili said that "Zissman and Qahalani will be required to resign from the Knesset and return their mandates to Labor. It is unthinkable that these two will bring down the government with votes that are Labor's. This is what it's all about. This government could fall because of the Third Way."

Zissman countered, however: "If anyone should resign it is Zvili and his like, who so blatantly betrayed the

platform on which they ran and turned their back on all the resolutions of the party conventions.

"Zvili's mandate was won because the public voted for a certain platform, but now Labor is doing the precise opposite of everything it said," Zissman continued.

"Zvili is already talking about the establishment of a Palestinian state and is talking about amending the Labor platform. He steadfastly defends every Meretz goal, which he shoves onto Labor. It is time Zvili and his ilk decide to which party they belong."

Zissman maintained that he "won in the Labor primaries precisely because of my ideology, to which I remain consistently faithful. There was a powerful coalition against me but I still prevailed. This indicates that despite the odds there was considerable support in my constituency for my views. I promised my voters to stand for certain principles and I will not veer from them. The Third Way platform is an exact reflection of the 1992 Labor platform."

In Labor, there was a considerable shock at the low turnout. A senior source said that this "more than anything indicates how far we have drifted apart. Labor and the Third Way are about to sever all ties."

Meanwhile, Deputy Housing Minister Alex Goldfarb warned the government last night "not to count on my vote in favor of Oslo-2. I am not saying that I will vote against it. What I am saying is that whoever is now conducting the negotiations with 'Arafat will have to sit with me and try long and hard to convince me that this agreement is a good one for the people of Israel and that it will pose no danger whatever either to settlers or to the soldiers."

Labor also convened new immigrant members at Ramat Ef'al yesterday. They were addressed by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who admitted that "immigrants may well decide the outcome of the 1996 elections." He exhorted those present to go out and enlist support for Labor in their communities.

He severely took the Jewish Agency to task for what he argued is "an ever-decreasing role in absorption. The grants immigrants receive remain the same, but the Jewish Agency pays less and less of them. The government now foots the lion's share of the absorption bill, with the Jewish people around the world shouldering less and less of the burden."

Minister: Reconciliation Setback Will Harm Arabs

JN2109122595 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
21-22 Sep 95 pp 1, 7

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Karim al-Kabariti said Wednesday [20 September] that Jordan was currently playing an important positive and fundamental role in reestablishing confidence among Arab states.

Speaking in Cairo, where he is taking part in an Arab League Council meeting, Mr. al-Kabariti said that any setback to the reconciliation process among Arab states will be a setback for pan-Arab interests.

Meetings between Arab foreign ministers on the sidelines of the Arab League Council meeting bear a great significance and are more important than the regular topics on the council's agenda, he said.

With reference to Jordanian-Egyptian relations, Mr. al-Kabariti said that Jordan was coordinating and consulting with Cairo in all matters but "this does not mean that the two sides agree on all issues."

However, he added, Cairo and Amman hold identical views with regard to the basic issues, particularly Arab reconciliation and the Middle East peace process.

The minister said Jordan considers the few anti-Jordanian articles appearing in Egyptian papers "do not reflect the official stand but the views of writers who oppose Jordanian-Egyptian coordination and are not happy to see Jordan, being a small country, playing a major role in restoring confidence, bringing about reconciliation among Arab states and erasing the tension that lingered in the aftermath of the Gulf crisis."

Mr. al-Kabariti said that Jordan had taken active part in drafting the Arab code of honour, noting that the Kingdom supports any move towards pan-Arab reconciliation.

Denying reports that Jordan's ties with Syria are strained, Mr. al-Kabariti said there was a "freeze," but that he welcomed a meeting with his Syrian counterpart if the latter desires that. He said that Jordan is quite open to dialogue.

Mr. al-Kabariti has already held meetings with the foreign ministers of Oman and Bahrain in the presence of Jordan's Ambassador to Egypt Nayif a-Qadi.

Envoy Discusses Iraq, Other Developments

NC2209085595 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic
17 Sep 95 p 5

[Interview with Ambassador to Egypt Sa'ud Nayif al-Qadi by Sana' al-Sa'id; place and date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] [al-Sa'id] Recent developments have given an untrue picture of Egyptian-Jordanian relations. Where do these relations stand now?

[Al-Qadi] Relations are strong, solid, and normal. They are the foundation for inter-Arab relations and will not be affected or weakened as a result of a press article or irresponsible statement. After resuming in 1993, these relations took a new course, one that relies on constant contacts and consultation. Jordan was careful to brief officials in sister Egypt on all the moves and developments and their impact on the Arab situation and interests.

The Egyptian foreign minister often reiterated that there is clear bilateral accord on most Arab, regional, and international issues and that there is political harmony between them. But the similarity of policy and political harmony do not preclude disagreement on some issues. This is natural, although it does not give either the right to direct painful criticism at the other.

I believe the recent visit by 'Amr Musa to Amman was useful and fruitful because of the frankness that prevailed during the talks. I believe the visit has answered all the questions concerning Egyptian remarks or reservations at this stage.

[Al-Sa'id] What about Iraq after the recent developments and King Husayn's speech?

[Al-Qadi] The Iraqi issue is important to Jordan; Iraq constitutes Jordan's economic and security depth. Over the past five years Jordan has suffered an embargo similar to that imposed on Iraq. We suffered with the Iraqi people; we opened our border to them so that they could share whatever we have. In recent years Jordan has called for developing an Arab stance that understands the position of the Iraqi people and its impact on Iraq's future. All we met were deaf ears and closed borders. We heard of no serious interest in or concern over the Iraqi people's suffering from people inside and outside the region. When Jordan, as represented by King Husayn, revealed the reality of the tragedy in Iraq, criticism and accusations were leveled at it, as if it had been responsible for destroying Iraq and tearing it apart.

[Al-Sa'id] Jordan has been criticized for failing to put Egypt in the picture about recent developments.

[Al-Qadi] General Husayn Kamil's arrival in Jordan was a surprise. But Foreign Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Kabariti was careful to contact his Egyptian counterpart instantly to give him the initial details of the arrival, which Jordan did not know beforehand.

[Al-Sa'id] It was said that Jordan knew of Kamil's arrival one month earlier.

[Al-Qadi] This is not true; Jordan knew of no plan by Husayn Kamil to take refuge in Jordan. It was surprised by his arrival just like the rest of the world. Jordan has not granted him asylum yet. All we did was to receive him with hospitality as a guest according to Arab tradition.

[Al-Sa'id] In the recent developments Jordan's conduct was viewed as clear and open interference in Iraq's internal affairs.

[Al-Qadi] We did not interfere in Iraq or any other state's internal affairs. We challenge anyone to prove that Jordan had a hand in what happened. But Kamil's arrival in Amman was a clear sign, not to be ignored, that things in Iraq had reached a level that could not be condoned. So Jordan explained the internal situation in Iraq. For some time Jordan had noticed that conditions in Iraq were deteriorating. We tried to send signals to Iraqi officials but received no positive response. In his statements over the past three months, King Husayn stressed that he was concerned about Iraq. He wondered about the conditions the UN Security Council wants it to meet to lift the embargo.

[Al-Sa'id] What is the implication of King Husayn's recent speech, particularly since some people find it puzzling, even vague?

[Al-Qadi] The speech was clear. It was part of a constant policy King Husayn has pursued for years. This policy is based on telling the Jordanian people and the Arab nation about the major problems facing Arabs in general. The king and the Jordanian Government have given the situation in Iraq priority since the second Gulf war. The recent speech was not new in content; it was based on questions the king posed in previous statements about the future of the embargo on Iraq, whether the parties concerned had any plans to lift it, and under what terms. When he received their answer he announced that publicly. This declared policy cannot be described as part of a conspiracy in the way some people tried to portray it. Jordan is sure of its role and intentions and it does not work in the dark. It adopted a known position during Iraq's invasion of Kuwait concerning the required solution. It is now reiterating these same

stances and policies on the basis of the new reality and the regional and international developments.

[Al-Sa'id] Some blamed Jordan for conducting maneuvers with America, since it was Jordan that advocated an Arab solution to regional problems.

[Al-Qadi] The maneuvers are not today's creation. They are being held with America according to a known program, which stopped only two years after the invasion. There is nothing new in that program.

[Al-Sa'id] An international economic summit meeting is expected to be held in Amman next month. Why do some people view this conference cautiously and why do others fear that it will serve the Israeli interest?

[Al-Qadi] These fears are not founded properly or objectively. They have to do with the sensitivity of losing one's role or imposing roles by others. With its size and capabilities, Jordan does not threaten any Arab state. It serves its interest as well as that of the Arab nation. Jordan will not let Israel or any other state gain at the expense of its own interest or that of the Arab nation. We are sincerely and objectively trying to explain this and affirm it to our brothers. But on every occasion we sense that some parties are casting doubts or making accusations without providing any evidence. We are sure of our role and objectives, which will only be in the pan-Arab interest. Our choice remains the Arab choice. It is other parties that chose to be outside that framework. History does not forget.

Banquet for Israeli Ambassador Canceled

JN2109150395 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 21 Sep 95
p 21

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Irbid—A luncheon banquet was scheduled to be hosted in honor of the Israeli ambassador to Jordan at the Grand al-Andalus Restaurant and Hall in the city of Irbid yesterday by Dr. Shahir Khurays, the veterinarian in charge of the Irbid Municipality Slaughterhouse, and Muhammad Mundhir Bani 'Isa. Invitations were extended for this purpose. Nonetheless, pressures exerted by trade unions and popular organizations and statements issued by some Islamic groups have precluded the holding of this event. The cancellation of the banquet was announced at a meeting held at the Professional Unions Complex on the evening of 19 September. The announcement of the cancellation of the banquet by Dr. Muhammad Nayil 'Ubaydat, president of the Dentists Association, was met with jubilation and with shouts of God is great by the audience. [passage omitted]

Minister Returns From League Meeting, Comments

NC2109174095 *Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic*
1530 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz has stressed the need for Arab unity and cohesiveness between brothers. He noted that the subject of southern Lebanon was discussed in Cairo. Minister Buwayz was speaking upon his return to Beirut from Egypt, where he chaired Lebanon's delegation to the Arab League Council session. He said:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Minister Buwayz: You returned from Cairo today after attending the 104th Arab League Council session. How do you evaluate Lebanon's participation in the session?

[Buwayz] This was an ordinary session. The subjects of discussion were the normal topics on the agenda. But there were two main subjects this time: The establishment of an Arab court of justice and the drafting of an Arab honor charter on security. As regards the former, Lebanon's position addressed first the form — how this court can be adopted. We, as a democratic system in Lebanon, cannot make a decision at the level of foreign ministers without first bringing up the issue with the Council of Ministers and the Chamber of Deputies. We objected to the raising of this subject at the level of foreign ministers. We also had many observations regarding the content of the plan. For example, it is possible to bring a case against a state that adheres to the court agreement while it is not possible for a member state to bring a case against another country outside the agreement.

As regards the Arab honor charter, we, in principle, support this plan, but in reality, we must say that security is a result of policy. Right policy produces right security, and vice versa. We said that as long as Arab conflicts remain as they are, and as long as Arab reconciliation remains unachieved, it is unrealistic and illogical to present to an Arab summit — which may not take place anyway — a plan like this. So far, circumstances are not ripe. This is apart from the content of such a charter and our observations about it. We, as a Lebanese delegation, therefore proposed that the Arab League make efforts to achieve Arab reconciliation on real and basic political issues. The honor charter would then embody such a reconciliation.

In addition to these points, the situation in southern Lebanon was a main topic on the agenda, and so was the situation of Lebanese detainees in Israeli prisons. The Arab countries renewed their commitment to supporting the Lebanese state.

[Correspondent] Minister, on the sidelines of the Arab League session, you met with several Arab foreign ministers, notably 'Amr Musa and Faruq al-Shar'. How do you see the future of peace in the region in light of those meetings?

[Buwayz] I clearly believe that the peace process needs a new push. This can be done only by the U.S. sponsor. Since the peace process was launched, we have believed that the U.S. role — the United States being a pushing force — is more than that of an ordinary mediator. We believe that new proposals by the United States to remove the obstacles resulting from early warning stations and meetings between experts is something basic and needed to push the negotiations ahead.

In addition to this, several meetings were held on the sidelines of the Arab League Council session. There was an important meeting for the foreign ministers of the Mediterranean Arab countries that will participate in the Barcelona conference. Many political and economic subjects were brought up regarding Arab participation in the conference and ways to achieve Arab coordination there.

[Correspondent] Will you coordinate with the Syrians before the Barcelona conference?

[Buwayz] Naturally, there should be coordination between all Arab countries participating in the Barcelona conference. There are common denominators and common interests, and we must deal with this in the right way.

[Correspondent] Mr. Minister, you also met with President Mubarak in Alexandria. How do you evaluate the meeting?

[Buwayz] We discussed topics primarily related to the situation in the region—the peace process, Iraqi developments, and international conferences that have direct or indirect bearing on the peace process. I must note here the deep concern that His Excellency President Husni Mubarak showed to the situation in Lebanon. By this, he reflected Egypt's interest in Lebanon. It is clear that President Husni Mubarak, who is carefully watching developments on the Arab scene, is committed to Arab rights. He is making great efforts on all negotiating tracks, whether the Palestinian track, or perhaps moving the Lebanese and Syrian tracks. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Denies Christopher To Visit*JN2109181995 Damascus Syrian Arab Television Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' dismissed an AFP report released today that Warren Christopher, the U.S. secretary of state, will visit Damascus at the end of September.

In a statement to a SYRIAN ARAB NEWS AGENCY correspondent in Cairo, al-Shar' said he will meet with Christopher in New York in late September on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly's meetings.

EU, Japanese Stand in 'Harmony' With Damascus*JN2009165795 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1137 GMT 20 Sep 95*

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] Gentlemen: An intensive political and diplomatic move was recently made in the region by influential international figures such as the Spanish prime minister, who is also the chairman of the EU, and the Japanese prime minister.

Both Spain and Japan, which have great international economic and political influence, have emphasized their position on the peace process and their understanding of peace in the Middle East. They also stressed that peace should be comprehensive for it to be just, and that the way to achieve such peace is through full commitment to international legitimacy and to the relevant UN Security Council resolutions.

This means that the European and Japanese positions are in harmony with the Syrian Arab position, which is based on the resolutions of international legitimacy. Moreover, the U.S. initiative, which was the basis for the Madrid conference, was founded on the need to implement Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and on the land-for-peace formula.

In other words, the entire international community—represented by the United Nations and its resolutions and by the positions of the large powers and the influential economic and political centers—shows the same understanding and adopts the same position that enjoys an international consensus regarding the bases and requirements of the Middle East peace process.

At the same time, the international community, which is unanimous on this position, asserts that Syria is committed to peace and that it is impossible to achieve peace without Syria. Despite all this, the peace process has not moved forward. This process is now even dormant due to the tricky Israeli position that conflicts

with the international position and legitimacy and with the requirements of peace.

Israel does not want the kind of peace sought by the international community. It instead wants its self-styled peace that will secure keeping the occupied territories and dominating the region through agreements that have nothing to do with just peace. An example of these agreements is the Oslo agreement, the repercussions of which do not need any proof.

There is a new proof everyday that the Oslo agreement as well as what Israel is doing in the occupied Palestinian territory do not serve peace and will not lead to peace. Israel draws maps and sets conditions which suit it and serve its ambitions and objectives. One who observes the negotiations Israel is holding on the second part of the Oslo agreement and listens to Rabin's statements while receiving senior Israeli army commanders and beating the drums of war will realize well what Israel wants and where it is heading for.

It remains for the international community to realize that this Israeli position threatens international security and stability and that the way out lies in taking an international position which will cross the t's and dot the i's and make Israel assume its responsibilities. Peace is not only in the interest of the region and its peoples but also in the interest of the whole international community. Peace cannot be achieved without securing the rights, security, and dignity of all parties through respecting the resolutions of international legitimacy and implementing them by all parties.

Ba'th Party's Qaddah Reiterates Peace Stand*JN1909180495 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1115 GMT 19 Sep 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Under the patronage of President Hafiz al-Asad, the second conference of the Arab Dentists organizations Union and the 10th scientific conference of the Dentists Union in Syria were inaugurated at the Umayyad Conferences Palace this morning under the slogan of "scientific research in dentistry."

The president was represented by comrade Sulyaman Qaddah, assistant regional secretary general of Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. [passage omitted]

Qaddah delivered a speech in which he began by conveying the greetings of President Hafiz al-Asad to the participants, the Arab brothers, and foreign friends. [passage omitted]

On developments in the peace process, comrade Qaddah said that Syria's policy is clear, principled, and firm, and

that it is derived from the people's will, historical facts, and the rights of the nation. Syria defends its national soil, sovereignty over its lands, and the rights of its nation. He said Syria is working for just and comprehensive peace on the basis of international resolutions and the principles of international legitimacy, it is working for honorable peace that restores the land to its people, the rights to their owners, peace that preserves dignity, and realizes equitable [mutaqaifi] and equal [mutasawi] security for all.

He added that Syria is eager to render the peace process successful and to lead this process to the aspired objective. He said Syria strongly insists on full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan, southern Lebanon, and all occupied Arab territories, and on the return to the 4 June 1967 lines. Without this, peace will be farfetched and impossible to be realized.

Comrade Qaddah stressed that Israel is the party that obstructs the peace process, imposes obstacles to peace, rejects international resolutions, ignores the international community's will and the requirements of real peace. He added that Israel always works for entrenching its control, hegemony, and occupation. Israel is the party responsible for aborting the peace process and keeping this part of the world a permanent hotbed of tension that lacks security and stability, and threatened with wars and dangers.

Concluding his speech, Qaddah wished for a successful conference, and hoped that the spired results will be realized in terms of developing scientific research and enhancing the pan-Arab and professional role of the Arab Dentists Organizations Union.

Peace Process Stand, POW Killings Viewed

JN1909141095 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0450 GMT 19 Sep 95

[Press review]

[FBIS Translated Text] The newspaper AL-THAWRAH writes on Syria's credibility and its serious position on the region's security and stability through the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace based on the implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions and the land-for-peace formula.

AL-THAWRAH says: It has become clear internationally that Syria is ready to accept full peace in return for a comprehensive Israeli withdrawal, and that it has sought and is still strongly and resolutely seeking to achieve this peace.

AL-THAWRAH adds: Regarding this endeavor, Syria has faced many difficulties and challenges. It was

exposed to pressure, disinformation, and blackmail campaigns by Israel and its propaganda machine.

AL-THAWRAH stresses: All these difficulties and challenges did not weaken Syria. Also, its faith and confidence in the inevitability of the just and comprehensive peace did not become weak. Syria adheres to its just and legitimate demands. It is very confident in its sound stand.

AL-THAWRAH calls on the international community to concentrate its efforts on Israel to persuade it to change its provocative stands which obstruct the implementation of the resolutions of international legitimacy, especially since it has become clear that without changing these stands any true progress for the peace process will be impossible.

The newspaper AL-BA'TH refutes Israel's claims on its concern about the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace which restores security and stability to the region.

The paper says: Israel tampers with peace as if it is a commodity subject to bargaining. It deliberately ignores that its occupation of land, the expulsion of the inhabitants, and its continuous aggression against southern Lebanon obstruct the achievement of the region's stability and security.

AL-BA'TH stresses that international action in the region has proven that peace and occupation cannot go together, and that there will be no peace without the full implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions and the will of the international community.

On Israel's claims about peace, AL-BA'TH says: He who continues occupation of Arab territories and uses tricks and delusion to deceive world opinion, and he who defies the international will by its refusal to implement its relevant resolutions, is not concerned about peace. The paper notes that Israel has always placed obstacles to the peace process, using its own security as a pretext. It ignores its threats to the Arabs and their security, occupies vast areas of their lands, and expels millions of them from their villages and homes.

AL-BA'TH points out that the partial agreements Israel has concluded have turned into burdens and pains to its parties. The reason is that these agreements include many discrepancies, particularly the entrenchment of occupation and hegemony.

Concluding its commentary, AL-BA'TH says: Evidence and facts proved that the methods Israel has used with the misled ones will never be useful with Syria. Without Syria there will be no peace, and it is impossible to bypass Syria, especially since it holds the keys to the

region during peace and war. Syria has its influence which is missed by the others who did not know that ignoring facts would only bring them regret.

In its editorial, the newspaper TISHRIN comments on the rancorous racist roots of the Israeli authorities. It says: Since the crimes of murdering Arab POW's were uncovered in August, Israel spared no effort to obliterate the traces of these abominable acts.

TISHRIN adds: The announcement on this crime has embarrassed the current political and military leaders in Israel before Arab and world opinions. It has unequivocally been proven that many Israeli military and state officials were involved in the killings, either through the issuance of orders to get rid of Arab POW's, or by direct participation in the massacres.

TISHRIN says: It has become clear that this Israeli action was one of the reasons behind Israel's categorical

rejection of the establishment of a just and lasting peace with the Arabs, noting that such peace curbs the possibility of the establishment of Greater Israel and prevents the implementation of the religious and political Zionist teachings that advocate the cleansing of Israel's Torah land of the original citizens. This is why the Rabin government obstructs all sincere efforts to achieve a true peace and torpedoes every opportunity to arrive at a just and comprehensive settlement.

Concluding, TISHRIN says: The crimes of murdering Arab POW's constitute a disgrace in the history of Zionism. The Rabin government's stand defending those who perpetrated these crimes proves anew how deep-rooted racism and aggression against and hatred to the Arabs are in the past and current Israeli policy.

Afghanistan

Pakistan Reportedly Orders 13 Diplomats To Leave

LD2109180395 *Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network*
in Dari 1600 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Pakistan's government has ordered 13 Afghan diplomats to leave the country within 48 hours. The names of these diplomats are as follows: Mokhtar, charge d'affaires of the Afghanistan Embassy; Abdorrahim, political counsellor; Esmail, first secretary; Abdol Qudos, second secretary; Mir Nasratollah, third secretary; [name indistinct] and Fayzollah, employees of the Afghan Embassy in Islamabad; Gholam Mohammad, commercial attache; Bashur Chakari, political counsellor in Karachi; (?Hedayatollah Chakari), second secretary; Moheb, commercial official in Quetta; Abdol Basir, secretary; and Haji Welayat Khan, an official at the Afghan Consulate in Peshawar.

According to the international agencies, the government of Pakistan has given no reason for the expulsion of these Afghan diplomats.

Ghowr Province Said Liberated of Pakistani Militia

LD2109192695 *Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network*
in Pashto 1530 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Islamic army forces have liberated Ghowr Province and Golestan district, Farah Province, from the occupation of Pakistan's Government militia.

A Ministry of Defense source reports to BAKHTAR that the Islamic army's operation began last night at 2000. Chaghcharan city [capital of Ghowr Province located in central Afghanistan] was cleared of militia this morning. As result of this operation dozens of militia attached to the Inter-Intelligence Service [ISI] of Pakistan were killed and a number of them were injured. A major depot of weapons was seized by the Islamic army.

The country's brave mojahedin of the western provinces have started mopping up operations in these provinces. The mojahedin, under the command of Gholam Yahya, have liberated the Golestan district, Farah Province.

The brave mojahedin, under the command of Moalem Yosif, are continuing their advances toward Delaram and Nawzad districts [Helmand Province]. The Taliban attached to ISI are abandoning their positions and fleeing after receiving crushing blows from the mojahedin and the Islamic army.

According to military experts, the seizure of Ghowr Province and Golestan district by the Islamic army is (a starting point) for the defeat of Pakistani militia.

Pakistan Said To Force Plane To Land in Qandahar

LD2109181095 *Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network*
in Pashto 1530 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] A plane belonging to the Ariana Afghan Airline was forced to land at Qandahar airport by the Pakistani militia in Qandahar.

The head of Kabul airport said to the BAKHTAR correspondent that the plane was carrying commercial cargo belonging to Afghan companies. It was on a flight from Dubai to Jalalabad, which was forced to land at Qandahar airport today at 0930 by the military forces of Pakistan.

The plane had a crew of seven and was due to carry passengers from Jalalabad to Kabul after a stop in Jalalabad.

Taliban Reportedly Hijacks Plane to Qandahar

BK2109125395 *Hong Kong AFP in English*
1239 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] KABUL, Sep 21 (AFP) — An Ariana Afghan Airlines jet airliner carrying commercial cargo but no passengers has been hijacked by the militant Taliban Islamic movement, an official spokesman said here Thursday [21 September].

"The Ariana Boeing 727 was forced to land at Qandahar airport at 9:00 am this morning," declared the official Defence Ministry spokesman Abdullah (eds: one name).

The plane was reportedly flying from the Gulf state of Dubai with freight to the eastern Afghan capital Jalalabad when Taliban jet-fighters forced it to land at Qandahar.

Rabanni Forces Said To Recapture Province Capital

BK2109135095 *Hong Kong AFP in English*
1338 GMT 21 Sep 95

[Report by Terence White]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] KABUL, Sep 21 (AFP) — Afghan forces loyal to President Borhanoddin Rabbani have recaptured Chakhcharan, the capital of the central province of Ghor, from the Taliban student militia, the defence ministry said Thursday [21 September].

"We don't yet have details on the scale of fighting or casualties suffered," added ministry spokesman Abdullah (eds: one name) announcing Wednesday's victory during fighting against the Taliban.

The Taliban, who emerged from nowhere last year, quickly garnering public support in this war-torn country, now control thirteen provinces.

Meanwhile, with the recapture of Ghor, which could not be independently confirmed, the Rabbani side now have eight provinces under their rule.

There were 32 Afghan provinces drawn up by the former communist regime, not all of which are recognised by the current fighting factions.

The remaining eleven provinces are shared among Rabbani's northern Uzbek rival, ex-communist General Abdol Rashid Dostam who has 7, and the nominally neutral Nangrahar shoorā (council), which claims four.

Despite the recent Kabul visit by United Nations special envoy Mahmoud Mestiri, there seems little hope of an imminent breakthrough in the search for an Afghan peace settlement, observers said.

Abdullah also remained tight-lipped over the negotiations, saying simply: "The Islamic State of Afghanistan is happy with the (Mestiri) talks, but we are not going to reveal any details."

He did not elaborate on a recent statement by Afghan Deputy Foreign Minister Abdurrahim Ghafoorzai, who reportedly said that there would be no peace with the Taleban unless they returned recently captured provinces.

He reportedly said that another condition for peace was that the United Nations investigate and "confirm" Kabul's allegations of Pakistani military intervention in Afghanistan.

The Kabul government has charged that the Taleban, which recently captured the three strategic western provinces — Nimroz, Farah and Herat — did so with the military assistance of Pakistan, particularly operatives from its secret service, Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI).

Pakistan has repeatedly denied the charges and stressed its neutrality in the factional conflict in Afghanistan.

Relations between Kabul and Islamabad developed further tension Thursday as Pakistan declared 13 pro-Rabbani Afghan diplomats persona non grata and ordered them to leave the country within 48 hours.

Analysts Comment on Taleban Ultimatum to Kabul
LD2109131995 Tehran IRNA in English
1228 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Islamabad, Sept. 21, IRNA — Political analysts here have viewed Taleban's deadline to the Rabbani government to step down within five days, a preparation for a big assault on Kabul.

Taleban on Wednesday [20 September] hurled an ultimatum to Rabbani if he did not quit within the said time, they will invade Kabul.

An Afghan source in Islamabad told IRNA that it is unlikely for the Rabbani government to give serious weight to Taleban's warning. He added that if Taleban was serious in fulfilling its ultimatum it would have to fully prepare for war.

The source said that as the Rabbani government has prepared itself to counter Taleban's attack on Kabul and has dug trenches around the city, it would be very tough and daring for Taleban to enter into this operation.

Meanwhile, Pakistani Foreign Minister Asif Ahmad Ali who is currently visiting Italy had a meeting with former King Zahir Shah and his son-in-law general 'Abdol Wali in Rome and discussed with them the current Afghan situation.

General 'Abdol Wali about three months ago arrived for a month long tour in Pakistan. He visited Afghan refugees concentrated areas of [word indistinct] and Balochistan province. He held frequent meetings with Pakistan's high officials as well as Afghan leaders residing in Pakistan and discussed with them the Afghan issue and its solution in detail.

India

Delhi Concerned Over U.S. Move on Arms to Pakistan

BK2209131295 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 1230 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] India has expressed grave concern over the U.S. Senate's decision to permit transfer of substantial quantity of advanced military equipment to Pakistan. New Delhi today made it clear that it is committed to taking all necessary measures to counter the adverse effect on its security.

An External Affairs Ministry spokesman said India firmly believes that this is likely to trigger an arms race in South Asia and will not be conducive to promoting peace, security, and stability in the region. Besides, it will also be seen as legitimizing Pakistan's clandestine acquisition of nuclear weapons. He said India hopes that the United States will reconsider the issue and reflect on the consequences before taking any further steps.

The union minister of state for defense production and supplies, Mr. Suresh Pachori, has said that armed forces are prepared to face any eventuality posing a threat to the country's sovereignty. The minister was replying to questions in Bhopal today on the reports of the U.S. Senate approving a proposal for supplying arms worth \$370 million to Pakistan.

The home minister, Mr. S.B. Chavan, has criticized the U.S. Senate decision allowing military assistance

to Pakistan and said it will create tension in the region. Addressing the National Security Guard, NSG, raising day ceremony at Manesar in Haryana, Mr. Chavan said India wants to utilize its resources for the welfare of people rather than buying arms. On the other hand, our neighbor is indulging in the shameful activity of trying to disintegrate our country through supply of arms to militants and providing training to them.

Later, in an informal chat with newsmen, the home minister said the center is prepared to hold elections in Jammu and Kashmir and has already approached the Election Commission for the purpose. He said elections will be held in the entire state.

Answering a question, he said efforts are on to secure safe release of the foreign nationals, and contact is being maintained with the abductors.

Radio Assails U.S. Senate Decision

BK2209035495 *Delhi All India Radio Network in English* 0245 GMT 22 Sep 95

[Commentary by defense analyst Udhay Bhaskar]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The decision of the U.S. Senate to lift the 1985 Pressler Amendment on nuclear nonproliferation and resume its military aid relationship with Pakistan brings to an end a long and divisive debate within the United States. By waiving the Pressler Amendment, Washington has now decided that its own interest would take precedence over nuclear nonproliferation.

Though there is no doubt that the kind of military hardware to be supplied — such as the Harpoon missiles on the P-3C aircraft and night vision kits for antitank helicopters — will place India at disadvantage, there is a larger and deeper implication that merits notice. By this one decision, the U.S. Senate and the determined White House appear to be signalling the legitimization of Pakistan's clandestine nuclear weapons program. Thus, in the post-NPT [nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty] phase of the world, with the treaty having been extended indefinitely and unconditionally, the inference is clear. Among the so-called threshold states, Israel already has a special status in the U.S. view. As of yesterday, Pakistan's nuclear status had been accepted by the U.S. establishment. It remains to be seen if the United States will be prepared to apply the same nuclear nonproliferation norms as far as India is concerned.

The second inference is the inconsistency in the American stand as far as nuclear nonproliferation is concerned. It is common knowledge that successive U.S. Administrations either encouraged or actively supported Pakistan's nuclear weapons programs, so much so that U.S.

Senator John Glenn once said that the Pakistani bomb had been funded by the U.S. taxpayers. This questions the American capability as an honest broker in nuclear nonproliferation issues.

This one decision by the U.S. Senate is likely to have far-reaching consequences in India-U.S. relationship.

Article Voices Concern Over CIA Covert Actions

BK2209075995 *Madras THE HINDU in English* 21 Sep 95 p 13

[Article by C. Raja Mohan: "India Must Be Wary of CIA Operations"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] India will have to carefully consider the implications of the impending decision by the Clinton administration to let the Central Intelligence Agency [CIA] run clandestine operations against the nuclear, space and other advanced technology programmes in the developing world.

THE WASHINGTON POST revealed last week that the Clinton administration was considering a proposal to revive covert action as an instrument of American foreign policy, particularly against the spread of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and missiles, narcotics trade and international terrorism.

Covert action — meaning clandestine operations not traceable to the United States — had been an important element of the U.S. American foreign policy throughout the Cold War in destabilising communist and other regimes seen as hostile to U.S. interests, and was widely used in the Third World. The use of such operations reached a peak during the Reagan administration's renewed Cold War with the Soviet Union.

Covert action was seen as providing the United States useful policy options between sending a protest note and launching a full-scale war against perceived adversaries. But the revelation of a number of scandals in the late 1980's on the American operations such as secret supply of arms to Iran led to public proclamations that Washington would henceforth downgrade the importance of covert action.

"Foreign Policy Tool"

The Clinton administration, however, may now be about to reemphasise the value of clandestine operations abroad. The director of the CIA told the press last week in Washington that he believed the United States needed "to maintain, and perhaps even expand, covert action as a foreign policy tool."

According to a senior administration official quoted by THE WASHINGTON POST, "For 40 years, this tool

has been geared toward traditional Cold War targets". "Now, we are looking" to "new targets", the official told the POST. One of the new targets of the administration is reported to be the spread of weapons of mass destruction.

The use of covert action against advanced scientific and technological programmes in the developing world fits well with the declared policy objectives of the Clinton administration that include the new emphasis on using non-political and non-diplomatic approaches in combating proliferation and the increased role of intelligence agencies in undermining strategic programmes in the developing world.

Counter-Proliferation Initiative

The U.S. Defence Counter-Proliferation Initiative launched by the Clinton administration in December 1993 explicitly called for using military means to destroy the emerging capabilities for building mass destruction weapons in the developing world. The Initiative is designed to ensure that the necessary defence acquisition doctrine, and training are in place to provide the United States with the ability to deter and destroy the threat of mass destruction weapons and missiles from the south.

The Clinton administration has determined that intelligence has a critical role to play in the promotion of non-proliferation, which has been declared one of its top foreign policy priorities. It has set up the Non-Proliferation Centre at the CIA to better deal with key intelligence issues relating to the spread of mass destruction weapons in the developing world. After the advent of the counter-proliferation strategy stressing the military means, the CIA's Non-Proliferation Centre has now created a new directorate for military planning and operations.

It was only to be expected that the CIA will inevitably move beyond simple intelligence gathering on proliferation developments in the world. The current consideration of covert operations on non-proliferation comes logically for the CIA. Meanwhile, the U.S. Special Forces are already being trained in the specific organisational and tactical skills in disabling and destroying the programmes and facilities critical for the development of mass destruction weapons in targeted countries.

The American academic writing in the last couple of years has been discussing the possibilities of using non-traditional means to reinforce American pursuit of its non-proliferation agenda. A noted American expert on counter-profit operation has recently written that "the likely dangers of acquisition of nuclear or biological weaponry by potential regional aggressors warrants exploration of possible recourse to covert

or special operations for proliferation prevention." He adds, "theoretical possibilities cover a spectrum from tampering with shipments of critical inputs before they reach a proliferator to sabotage of production facilities in such a country."

American analysts believe covert action can provide an important option short of visible military attacks on the research and production facilities in another country.

It is not certain at this stage that India will be targeted for covert action under the counter-proliferation strategy. But prudence requires that India take all the necessary precautions against externally sponsored sabotage of its science and technology programmes as well as production facilities critical for Indian national security.

Report Addresses Contact With Kashmir Abductors

BK2109141795 Hong Kong AFP in English
1352 GMT 21 Sep 95

[Report by Surinder Oberoi]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] SRINAGAR, India, Sept 21 (AFP) — The Indian government said Thursday [21 September] that it had not been in touch for two days with Muslim separatists holding four Western tourists in Kashmir but that the gap in contact was "nothing alarming."

"There was no contact yesterday (Wednesday)," Kashmir government spokesman K.B. Jindial told reporters in this Kashmir summer capital. "There has been no contact today."

"We expect the contact to resume in a day or two," he added.

"There is nothing alarming," Jindial said of the failure of the Muslim separatist group Al-Faran to contact the authorities since Tuesday evening. "There have been such gaps earlier also."

The spokesman's comments contradicted an assertion by Kashmir police chief Mohinder Nath Sabherwal earlier Thursday that contact with Al-Faran was still ongoing.

Sabherwal had also stated that the two Britons, an American and a German being held by Al-Faran were "safe in the custody of the militants" and believed to be in good health.

"We hope there will be a happy ending (to the hostage crisis)," he said.

Indian negotiators had been talking to the Al-Faran guerrillas, who are reportedly holed up with the hostages

somewhere in the Kashmir Valley, by powerful radio sets until two weeks ago.

Since then, unidentified intermediaries have contacted the authorities here on a daily basis by telephone.

The gap in contact coincides with the publication by a magazine, *India Today*, of transcripts of the radio conversations between Al-Faran and the authorities.

In the transcripts, the kidnappers accuse the authorities of stringing them along and repeatedly threaten to kill the hostages and hide their bodies where they will never be found.

Another Kashmir government spokesman said in New Delhi meanwhile that the government would not accept an Al-Faran demand for the release of 15 Muslim militants from prison in exchange for the hostages.

"The government rules out any exchange," the spokesman said.

Al-Faran abducted Britons Paul Wells, 23, and Keith Mangan, 33, and American Don Hutchings, 42, while they were trekking in the Himalayas on July 4.

The previously-unknown group seized Norwegian Hans-Christian Ostro, 27, and German Dirk Hasert, 26, in the same area four days later.

Ostro's body was discovered on August 13. He had been beheaded and a note from Al-Faran warned that the other hostages would meet the same fate unless the Indian authorities agreed to the swap.

The spokesman in New Delhi also repeated a government offer of safe passage to the abductors to Pakistan. "Free passage to the abductors would not be a serious problem provided the hostages are released (unharmed)," he said.

"We are concerned about the safety of the hostages and not retribution to the abductors," he said.

The spokesman in the Indian capital also said that any potential rescue operation would be carried out in coordination with the families of the hostages and their governments.

He reiterated accusations that Al-Faran was a front for the Muslim militant group Harkat-ul-Ansar, which abducted two Britons in the same area of Kashmir last year and released them unharmed after 17 days.

The Muslim separatist drive in Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state, has left more than 12,000 people dead since 1989.

'Constant Touch' With Abductors Reported

*BK2109160295 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 1530 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The authorities are in constant touch with Al-Faran — the abductors of four foreign tourists. An official spokesman said in Srinagar today that efforts are on to secure the safe release of the tourists.

Pakistan Asked To Stop Aiding Kashmir 'Terrorism'

*BK2109130495 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 1230 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] India today called upon Pakistan to eschew sponsoring of terrorism in Kashmir and return to dialogue as urged by the UN secretary general. Islamabad should demonstrate sincerity to find a peaceful solution to the issue. Referring to Dr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali's report this year to the UN, an External Affairs Ministry spokesman said in New Delhi today that India is fully committed to peacefully resolve the Kashmir issue under the Simla agreement as suggested by him. Several proposals have already been made to Pakistan for this. On reference to incidents of violence in Jammu and Kashmir in the report, the spokesman held Pakistan entirely responsible for this because of its support to terrorism.

Rao Cancels Kashmir Visit Over Assassination Fear

*BK2109134795 Islamabad PTV Television Network
in English 1300 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In occupied Kashmir, 17 more people have been killed in clashes and indiscriminate firing by Indian occupation forces. Seven Indian soldiers, including an officer, were killed in a clash with mojahedin in Srinagar. After the clash, troops besieged the Lalbazar area of Srinagar, which is still continuing. Ten people fell victim to firing by Indian troops. Several buildings, including a mosque, were destroyed or damaged in the heavy shelling. Protest strike and demonstrations were held in the area against the Indian brutalities.

Fearing an assassination attempt on his life, Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao has canceled his scheduled visit to held Kashmir. PTV special correspondent in Srinagar Ghulam Nabi Khayal has this report:

[Begin Khayal recording] Fearing an assassination bid on his life, Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao has canceled his visit to Kashmir scheduled for later this month. Indian intelligence agencies have advised Mr. Rao to decide against visiting Kashmir Valley

after two major incidents of bomb blasts have shaken off the entire Indian security network. The killing of east Punjab Chief Minister Beant Singh, along with 15 others, in Chandigarh and the explosion in the high security zone here in Srinagar on 4th of September, claiming 14 lives, have compelled Mr. Rao not to pay his first ever visit to Kashmir where he was planning to assess the situation for so-called elections to be held later this year. People of Kashmir have already decided to boycott these elections. The Kashmir Congress chief, Ghulam Rasul Kar, has confirmed Prime Minister Rao's staying away from Kashmir. He himself cautioned Mr. Rao that his safety could not be guaranteed anywhere in the valley where fighters have intensified their attacks on forces and their installations.

Meanwhile, Indian Home Ministry has ordered tightening up of personal security of about 600 politicians across India, including chief ministers of provinces of Assam, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu, and Kashmir Governor Krishna Rao, and former Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah. These people are already on the hit lists of different militant outfits operating in several Indian states. [end recording]

Kashmir Pro-Independence Group Reportedly Splits

BK2209121195 Hong Kong AFP in English
1154 GMT 22 Sep 95

[By Surinder Oberoi]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] SRINAGAR, India, Sept 22 (AFP)— Kashmir's leading pro-independence group split Friday [22 September] as its leaders here expelled Pakistan-based chairman Amanullah Khan and named a new chief.

The Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), which seeks independence for the Himalayan territory claimed by both India and Pakistan, announced that it had sacked JKLF chairman Khan for precipitating a leadership crisis.

JKLF leaders told a news conference the JKLF's Srinagar-based president, Yasin Malik, would also be the chairman and the group's headquarters would shift from Rawalpindi in Pakistan to Srinagar, Kashmir's summer capital.

Friday's announcement followed Khan's expulsion of Malik a day earlier and the appointment of Srinagar-based Shabir Ahmad Siddiqui as the JKLF president.

In expelling the 29-year-old Malik, Khan, who lives in Pakistan, accused him of failing to follow policy directives and of conducting a political vendetta against his opponents.

Javed Mir, 34, the JKLF's senior vice president, and other leaders here lashed out at Khan's move against Malik, considered by many to be the JKLF's most charismatic leader.

"Amanullah Khan's action is highly condemnable," said Mir, one of the pioneers of the Muslim separatist drive in Kashmir, the only state in India with a Muslim majority. "We have been fighting for Kashmir's independence for so many years.

"Amanullah Khan should have at least consulted everyone before taking such a decision," Mir said.

Malik, who was freed from Indian prisons in May 1994 after four years behind bars, was not present at the news conference but one of his confidantes admitted that the split was a blow to the JKLF, founded in 1966.

"It's a setback for the JKLF," said Atlatf Qadri, spokesman for the group which wants independence for Kashmir, unlike most other Muslim separatist groups which want Kashmir to merge with Muslim-majority Pakistan.

"It will create confusion among the cadres," he said.

India and Pakistan each hold parts of Kashmir and have fought two of their three wars since independence in 1947 over the picturesque province.

Pakistan denies Indian charges that it arms and trains Muslim militants battling the Indian security forces in a conflict which has left more than 12,000 people dead since 1989.

The JKLF enjoys a considerable following across the Muslim-majority Kashmir Valley and police sources put its membership in the thousands.

The JKLF leaders said that although the group stood by Malik's unilateral ceasefire announcement of last year, they would take up arms if a peaceful solution to the conflict could not be found.

"Only a peaceful dialogue between India, Pakistan and the people of Kashmir will result in a lasting solution to the Kashmir crisis," said Jalil Andrabi, a lawyer and JKLF leader.

"But the JKLF still considers armed struggle a necessary component of our struggle," he said. "We have given a chance to the government of India and the ball is in New Delhi's court.

"If necessary we will take up the gun again," he said.

Article Views 'Expensive Dispute' Over Enron Deal
BK1809074295 Delhi BUSINESS STANDARD
in English 16 Sep 95 p 10

[Article by Prem Shankar Jha: "Slogan That May Cost India Dear"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] It may be too soon to hope that the cautious signals coming from the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] camp that its leaders are not unwilling to consider a fresh proposal from Enron for the Dabhol power project, could be the prelude to a settlement of this protracted and expensive dispute. The most that one can surmise from them is that as the euphoria generated by kicking a foreigner in the teeth to demonstrate India's economic sovereignty has waned, and the BJP has started counting the cost of cancellation. Saner voices in the party may have begun to ask whether it is really necessary to go all the way, and whether the political gains cannot be maximised by getting some reduction in the cost of power and the outgo of foreign exchange.

If the BJP is indeed veering around to this view then it would do well to hurry, because in weeks, at most, the entire project as it stands today will crumble to the ground. Every day's delay is costing Enron \$225,000 in interest and commitment charges. This has already added \$11 million to its costs. If work does not resume soon at Dabhol, the financial closure of the project — the calculations on whose basis Enron obtained its loans from the international banks — will be unraveled. What is more, further delay will make it exceedingly difficult for Enron to adhere to the timetable for completion of the project that it has accepted in the existing agreement. Thus, failure to revive the project within the next one to two weeks will make it necessary for Enron to start the negotiation all over again, both with the Maharashtra government and the international banks. After the rude shock that Maharashtra's decision has given to international investors' confidence in India's ability to live up to its contractual commitments, the terms on which Enron obtains new loans can only harden. If that happens the company will not be able to bring down its costs. There will be no way left open, therefore, for the BJP to bring the new negotiations to a successful conclusion.

What would this mean to India's hope of accelerating the growth of GDP and employment? If one were to believe Jay Dubashi, the BJP's economic guru, the short-term cost in terms of power foregone by Maharashtra would be well worth the long-term gain. This would take the form of better terms of future investment, the placement of many more orders for equipment with Indian firms, and therefore the growth of

a healthy power industry in the country, and an overall increase in national self respect.

Implicit in Mr Dubashi's view is the belief that repudiating a contract with Enron without valid cause will not deter other investors from investing in India. Indeed in a recent article Mr Dubashi says as much, "The Indian market is far too attractive to be ignored." Mr Dubashi could not be further off the mark. Had more Indian newspapers and journalists taken this trouble to really sample foreign reactions, instead of rushing into print to proclaim that foreign investment remained unaffected, they would have paid more heed to the quiet warnings that have been coming from all quarters, but particularly from banks and multinationals in the United States and Japan. The plain truth, as this writer has been assured more than once, is that in the international banking community everything now hangs on how India handles the winding up of the Enron deal. If the Maharashtra government pays whatever compensation the arbitrators fix promptly, then the flow of funds to this country will resume although on a smaller scale and perhaps on harder terms. But if Maharashtra tries to find ways of wriggling out of the arbitration or refuses to pay the compensation fixed by the arbitrators, then projects in India will cease to be bankable. That does not mean that all private investment will stop. But it will come from only those companies that are investing a part of their own money, which they can afford to lose if things go wrong. It will not come from companies that have to borrow the money they wish to invest. As a rule the first kind of investment has brought peanuts to this country, witness the fact that 58 projects that the Foreign Investment Promotion Board has just cleared involve a total foreign investment of a mere \$180 million, i.e. \$3 million per project.

This type of foreign investment is welcome, because it will help upgrade the quality of a very wide range of Indian products, and thus pave the way for better export performance. But it too will ultimately become infructuous if the country's industrial infrastructure is unable to sustain a higher level of industrial activity. That is what will happen if the Dabhol power project is allowed to crash and international business and legal norms are violated on the payment of compensation.

Does India truly need foreign investment in infrastructure? Or have Mr Narasimha Rao's repeated exhortations to private investors abroad to come and invest in power, roads, telecom, ports and the like, been aimed solely at getting into what Mr Dubashi calls a cosy relationship with foreign multinationals? The answer is not only that India has to have foreign investment in this sector, but that the situation is much more desperate today than anyone could have foreseen in 1992.

After two years of industrial stagnation following the adoption of fiscal stabilisation in 1991, industry has entered a phase of explosive growth that has never been seen before in this country. The first portent of what was coming was the quadrupling of capital raised by private companies in the share market between 1991-92 and 1993-94. Nor did the pace slacken. By 1994-95, capital raised by public and right issues had doubled once more to a mammoth Rs [rupees] 40,000 crore. During the first two years of reform this money lay dormant as industrialists waited for duty and tax rates to stabilise and for markets to recover from the deflation of 1991-93. Then, towards the end of 1993, investment began to pick up once more. This pushed up the growth and industrial output to 8.4 per cent for the whole of 1994-95, and is now pushing it up to double digits. According to the latest computation by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, industries accounted for 46 per cent of the total index by weight, grew by 14.6 per cent between April and July. Past experience suggests that this will translate into an overall growth of 11 per cent or more.

This growth cannot be sustained if the country's economic infrastructure is not enlarged with equal or greater speed. The severe bottleneck is in the supply of power. Against an Eighth Plan target of 30,000 mw the actual amount of new generating capacity that will come up by April 1997 will be no more than 18,000 to 19,000 mw. As a result the Power Ministry has estimated that the overall power shortage, which was 8 per cent in 1992-93, could go up to more than 14 per cent by April 1997 and the shortage of peak power from 20 per cent to nearly 29 per cent in the same period if the present industrial growth continues and the monsoons are poor. By 2002 AD, the shortfall in installed capacity will rise to between 41,000 and 57,000 mw. This gap can only be filled by private investment.

The situation is no better in telecommunications, roads and ports. India has only one telephone line per hundred persons, when the average for the developing countries is six and for the industrialised countries around 50. Just to bring India to the level of other developing countries today, will require an investment of \$75 billion. Some idea of how inadequate the country's port capacity is, may be had from the fact that the total cargo handled by India's eight ports in 1994-95 was eight million tonnes less than the cargo handled by just one of China's ports, Shanghai, in 1993. The government has plans to develop another eight ports, but this requires Rs21,000 crore that it does not have. Similarly, the investment needed to develop 13,000 km of superhighways, is another Rs81,000 crore, for which the government has absolutely no bidders today.

Had India been saving another 5 per cent of its GNP every year and had it no dearth of foreign exchange, it could have dispensed with foreign private investment in infrastructure projects. But since it does not have either, the BJP has to decide whether it will stop playing politics with the nation's economy, or will try to fill the peoples' bellies with empty slogans of economic nationalism.

Iran

Minister Threatens 'Legal Action' After Hijacking

LD2109151795 Tehran IRNA in English
1425 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Sept. 21, IRNA — Minister of Transport, Akbar Torkan said here on Thursday [21 September] that Iran will take legal action with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) against the hijacking of an Iranian airliner to Israel on Tuesday.

The convention on international civil aviation stipulates that the passengers and the crew aboard the hijacked plane should be returned to the country of origin immediately, he told IRNA at Mehrabad airport while welcoming the passengers of the plane.

He said the hijacking happened when it had sufficient fuel to fly to the occupied Palestine.

Torkan said the Zionists had attempted to delay the return of the passengers and crew by resorting to different excuses.

He said simultaneous with the hijacking, a meeting was underway in Montreal at the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in which head of the Iranian civil aviation, 'Ali Shahcherghi pointed to the event at his address. The secretary-general of the ICAO, Philippe Rochat followed the matter in the framework of the universal convention which made the continuation of the hijacking impossible, he added.

On the reaction of the U.S. to the hijacking, Torkan said the U.S. did not condemn the incident, instead, it supported it. The U.S. reaction indicated that there are always two kinds of laws concerning the international air transport regulations, one for the U.S. and the big powers and the second for the other countries, the minister said.

He said international rules required the Zionists to return the passengers and the crew soon and not to subject them to interrogation.

Says International Air Travel 'Insecure'

LD2109203895 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Sep 95

[Announcer-read report]

[FBIS Translated Text] Today in an interview with the correspondent of the central news unit, the minister of roads and transport [Akbar Torkan] described the steps which had been taken in order to ensure the return of the Iranian aircraft. Referring to the establishment of a crisis headquarters in the Civil Aviation Organization, Mr. Torkan said: Immediately after this event took place, after it was made clear that the Zionist regime was not going to put an end to this incident in a simple way, we resorted to international and all-out efforts.

Mr. Torkan added: By sending a high-ranking delegation from the Iranian Civil Aviation Organization to the international session of ICAO [International Civil Aviation Organization] in Canada in which the representatives and heads of aviation organizations from member countries were also present we found the opportunity to raise the issue speedily on an international level.

The minister of road and transport said: By clarifying the situation to the members of the ICAO regarding the hijacking of the Iranian aircraft, the Zionist regime came under international pressure. However, as the embodiment of state terrorism in the world, the Zionists were creating obstacles in order to prevent the flight of the Iranian aircraft and did not give flight permission to the aircraft of the Iranian airways and its passengers.

The minister of road and transport said that by prolonging the period of this incident, the Zionist regime was trying to conclude this issue in its own interest and against the interest of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He also condemned the U.S.'s inconsistent [doganeh] approach towards this terrorist act. He added: If countries such as the United States were to support hijacking in this way then international airlines would become insecure [khotut-e havapeyma'i- ye donya amniyat nakhandasht].

Mr. Torkan stressed: We will stress the point in international organizations that the United States does not condemn air hijacking, but studies the issue of giving political asylum to the hijacker. He added: In our view, this U.S. action is cooperation with hijacking.

Israeli TV on Minister's Warning to U.S. Planes

TA2109183295 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 21 Sep 95

[Announcer-read report]

[FBIS Translated Text] Our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus reports that Akbar Torkan, Iranian minister of roads and transport, has warned that no U.S. plane will be safe in the air because the Americans failed to condemn what he termed the air terrorism act of hijacking the plane to Israel.

Habibi Comments on Plans Prior to Return of Plane

LD2109154695 Tehran IRNA in English 1438 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Sept. 21, IRNA — If the Zionist regime had refused to return the hijacked Iranian plane and its passengers, Iran would have dealt seriously with the matter, First Vice-President Hasan Habibi told the passengers of the aircraft upon their arrival in Tehran this morning.

Habibi who welcomed the passengers on behalf of the cabinet ministers, said he was happy that the incident came to an end in the best possible manner.

Habibi said that based on some reports the Zionist agents had given a harsh treatment to the passengers and the crew members of the plane hijacked to the occupied Palestine last Tuesday [19 September].

By refusing to allow immediate return of the passengers of the plane to Iran after the hijacker surrendered to the Zionist forces, the Zionist regime in fact turned the affair into a hostage taking issue, he told the passengers.

Denouncing the silence of certain countries over the incident, the first vice-president said attitude of these countries encourages the hijacking and proves that their claim of being against hostage taking is baseless.

The passengers were chanting "Death to Israel", "Death to America" while stepping down the plane.

The Iranian Boeing 707 with more than 170 passengers and crew members was hijacked Tuesday on a domestic flight from Tehran to the Persian Gulf island of Kish and was forced to land at 'Uvda Air Force base in the occupied Palestine.

The continuous efforts made by the Iranian Government officials in different international circles finally made the Zionists yield to the pressure and eventually allow the plane to return to Iran.

The plane landed at Tehran's Mehrabad airport at 01:05 hours local time [2035 GMT] Thursday.

Immediately after landing at the airport, Vice-President Habibi, the political advisor to the president and other high-ranking Iranian officials went on board the plane and welcomed the passengers back home after being captive in the occupied Palestine for 40 hours.

Official Assails Israeli Treatment of Passengers

*LD2109130195 Tehran IRNA in English
1100 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Sept. 21, IRNA — President's Advisor for International Affairs 'Ali Reza Mo'ayyeri here Thursday [21 September] said that the Zionist regime had treated the passengers and crew of the hijacked Iranian plane in a harsh manner.

He made the remark while getting off the plane after talking with the pilot and the crew.

The hijacked plane landed at Mehrabad airport at 01:05 hours [2005 GMT] Thursday after being kept captive in the occupied Palestine for 40 hours. First Vice-President Hasan Habibi and Mo'ayyeri welcomed the passengers and crew of the hijacked Boeing 707.

He lauded the high revolutionary spirit of the passengers aboard the hijacked plane during the incident.

According to Mo'ayyeri all the 161 passengers and 13 crew, except for the lone hijacker who surrendered to the Israeli regime, are back home safe and sound.

The plane touched the ground at Mehrabad at 01:30 a.m. local time (21:00 gmt Wednesday) [time as received] while enthusiastic welcomers who had gathered at the airport, were shouting "death to Israel".

Pilot Recounts Experience on Hijacked Plane

*LD2109220995 Tehran IRNA in English
1354 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Sept. 21, IRNA — The hijacker of the Iranian Boeing passenger plane flown to Israel Tuesday [19 September] intended from the very first moment of the hijacking to take the plane to Israel, its pilot Captain Kiyumars Mofkhami announced here Thursday.

Talking to IRNA at Tehran International Mehrabad Airport here Thursday, Mofkhami said all evidences, gestures, behaviour and words of the hijacker persuaded him from the very beginning that he knew the destination of the plane.

Being informed of the amount of fuel, the hijacker had planned its route so that the plane would run out of fuel

over the occupied Palestine and this could provide the Zionists with a pretext to issue landing permission.

The Iranian pilot said the Zionist regime's security forces surrounded the plane immediately after its landing at 'Uvda air force base in the occupied Palestine.

Mofkhami said that after surrendering himself to the Israeli forces, they (the crew and passengers aboard the plane) found out that the Zionist regime forces had been waiting for the hijacker in advance.

The pilot added that he had immediately called for fuel to take off from the base, but each time officials at the base prevented take-off by bringing various excuses.

Mofkhami said that none of the crew members and passengers were ready to step in Israeli soil even for a single moment, but Israeli officials entered the plane angrily under the pretext that there might be more hijackers among the passengers.

Freed Passengers Thank Government, Demand Trial

*LD2209085295 Tehran IRNA in English
0805 GMT 22 Sep 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Sept. 22, IRNA — Hijacked passengers of an Iranian airliner who returned to Tehran during early hours of Thursday [21 September] morning thanked the Islamic Republic Government for its endeavors in getting their plane released.

An Iranian Boeing 707 airliner was hijacked to Israel on its regular domestic flight from Tehran to Kish (in the Persian Gulf) last Tuesday. A total of 177 passengers and crew were aboard the plane. Most passengers were women and children.

The passengers also demanded an immediate trial of the hijacker in an international court.

One of the passengers of the hijacked plane stated that the deep rooted belief in the values of the Islamic revolution and disavowal of the unfaithfuls which was exhibited by the passengers despite the fact that they were surrounded by security and commando forces, foiled the prefabricated plans and propaganda of the Zionist regime.

The hijacked passenger added that the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran proved that the government is seriously concerned about the fate of its citizens wherever they may be in the world.

Radio Commentary Urges Extradition of Hijacker

*LD2109120195 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian
1005 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[Unattributed commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] After about 40 hours of delay and in spite of the procrastination of the Zionist regime, the hijacked Iranian plane finally returned to Tehran with all its crew and passengers and landed at Mehrabad airport in the early hours of this morning.

The return of the Iranian plane to Tehran is the outcome of our officials' efforts and the pressure brought against the Zionist regime by international forums. From the time that the Iranian plane was hijacked and transferred to the 'Uvda military base in occupied Palestine to the moment of its return to Iran and even after this, the Zionist regime's officials embarked on extensive efforts to make capital out of this event for political and propaganda purposes. Within this framework, while they tried to show that they were confronting the hijacking issue on the basis of international law and humanitarian principles, they linked other issues to the hijacking in a bid to gain some political concessions. This effort on the part of the Zionists along with their behavior towards the hijacker, has strengthened the idea that Israel was, from the start, the main architect of this event.

According to recognized international laws, hijacking is a crime and a hijacker is a criminal. On the other hand, those who accept a hijacked plane must return the plane, along with its crew and passengers, without delay, to the country to whom the plane belongs.

In the course of the hijacking, Israel, by interrogating the passengers and crew and by long delays and procrastination over the return of the plane and its passengers, has blatantly ignored one of the principles of international law and violated a recognized humanitarian principle. Meanwhile, by granting asylum to the hijacker, Israel has endorsed an international crime and given its seal of approval to his terrorist deed.

The question which is now relevant for the public is: Is it not a crime to grant asylum to an international criminal?

The United States also showed that it supported the Zionist regime along these lines and by implying that it was studying the issue of granting asylum to the hijackers [as heard], it confronted this terrorist action as if this was a normal political event rather than a crime. Is the acceptance of an outlaw who has played with the lives of over 170 people and whose crime is obvious as a hijacker so ambiguous as to warrant scrutiny?

Iran was able, through its extensive efforts and contact with international forums, to bring pressure on the Zionist regime and have the plane, its crew, and its passengers returned to Iran. And it is continuing its efforts for the extradition of the hijacker.

It is fitting for international forums and countries that claim to be leading defenders of human rights to bring pressure to bear on the Zionist regime to extradite the hijacker of the Iranian plane, and not to allow international laws and principles concerning these inhuman acts to become discredited.

Minister Addresses Support for French in Algeria

*BR2109124995 Paris LIBERATION in French
21 Sep 95 p 10*

[Interview with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati by "J.P.P." in Tehran on 19 September: "Iran Ready To Support French Initiative in Algeria"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [LIBERATION] How can we find a solution to the Algerian conflict?

[Velayati] We really hope that France, a country where a new democracy was born after the Revolution, will support the installation of a democratic government in Algeria. The French Government should take a new initiative with that aim. It is important for France and the other countries of the Mediterranean basin to make a commitment to resolving the Algerian problem. (...) A country like France must bring together the different factions in Algeria, those that met in Rome, and reconcile them with the Algerian Government with the aim of laying the ground for elections. If the French Government is prepared to cooperate in this way, then we can also join it in this initiative. We must prepare these new elections which will be both general and democratic and which will be supervised by the United Nations. In this context, any terrorist action, from whatever source, will be condemned.

[LIBERATION] Do you think things are going well in Bosnia?

[Velayati] The situation is more balanced today. Even France's position has changed, as we can see by the fact that Bosnian President Izetbegovic was received by President Chirac. Now the offensives led by each faction — Serbs, Croats, and Bosnians — must stop. There is no other solution if these people, who share a long history together, are to once again live together. [passage omitted]

[LIBERATION] Does Iran agree with the campaign against French nuclear testing?

[Velayati] If any country opposes the tests it should go to the site and see whether the French Government has taken all the measures necessary for the protection of the environment. This campaign (against France) is a political one. People are putting France under so much pressure because French politics are independent and France refuses to submit to U.S. domination.

KDP's Barzani Visits, Confers With Officials

JN1909123595 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Arabic 1815 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Kurdistan Democratic Party [KDP], paid a brief visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran on the morning of 17 September. He returned to the Salah al-Din summer resort on the evening of the same day. Mas'ud Barzani was accompanied by their excellencies Azad al-Barwani and Falak al-Din al-Kaka'i. On arrival at the borders in Hajj 'Umran, they were received by senior Iranian officials and were given an official reception. Martial music and the national anthem of Iran were played.

His excellency then headed for Orumiyeh and arrived there at 1300, where he was received by a higher committee representing the Islamic Republic. During a fraternal meeting aimed at strengthening friendly relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the KDP, matters of mutual concern were discussed. The meeting concluded successfully.

It is noteworthy that our party's relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran date back to the first days of the Islamic revolution in Iran, and these relations continue to grow.

The KDP always seeks friendly relations with neighboring states on the basis of mutual respect, safeguarding security, and achieving the interests and legitimate aspirations of the peoples of the region.

Mas'ud Barzani and his delegation returned to Salah al-Din late on 17 September.

Talabani Visits To Discuss Kurdish Peace

NC2209120795 Paris AFP in English 1127 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Sept 22 (AFP)—Iraqi Kurdish leader Jalal Talabani has been in Iran for the past several days to discuss inter-Kurdish peace talks and bilateral ties with Iranian officials.

Talabani, whose week-long visit has not been announced, told AFP that he was also here to hold talks with the leader of the Iraqi Shiite Moslem opposition, Ayatollah Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim, to discuss the developments in their country.

"We will try and narrow our positions to reach a conclusion on a 'popular' negotiation with regard to the government in place in Iraq," said the head of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK).

Talabani's Kurdish rival, Mas'ud Barzani of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), also made a trip to Iran on Sunday [17 September] and held talks with President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Sierra Leone Minister Visits, Meets Velayati

LD2009113295 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 20 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] At a meeting this morning with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Alusine Fofanah, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation of Sierra Leone, described the Islamic and humanitarian measures of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Sierra Leone as very beneficial. He said they are an effective factor in strengthening the ties between the two nations.

Welcoming the opening of the Sierra Leone Embassy in Tehran, our foreign minister stated that the Islamic Republic of Iran is ready for a further expansion of ties with Sierra Leone.

Asks For Expansion of Ties

LD2109124095 Tehran IRNA in English 1224 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Sept. 21, IRNA — Foreign Minister of Sierra Leone Alusine Fofanah in a meeting with Deputy Construction Jihad Minister Mohammad-Javad Iravani here Thursday [21 September] called on Iran to provide assistance and expertise to his country in the area of reconstruction.

Fofanah, referring to Sierra Leone's conditions and the war imposed on the country, said that war destroyed the country's facilities and it could not go ahead with its development projects.

He lauded the projects which are being carried out in Sierra Leone by the Construction Jihad Ministry and called for expansion of Tehran-Freetown ties.

Iravani announced Construction Jihad Ministry's readiness to launch agricultural training programs in Sierra Leone.

Referring to a letter of understanding signed between the two countries for cooperation in the field of fisheries Iravani said that Iran's fisheries organization is willing to reconstruct the fishing fleet of Sierra Leone.

Velayati Views Regional Issues With Libyan Minister

*LD2109154595 Tehran IRNA in English
1406 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Sept. 21, IRNA — Libyan Deputy Foreign Minister for Asian Affairs Salim Bin Amer [name as received] and Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati here Thursday [21 September] exchanged views on Tehran-Tripoli relations and ways of further expanding them as well as on regional and international issues.

Amer at the meeting submitted a message from Libyan foreign minister to Velayati and expressed hope that Libya could establish relations with certain Central Asian countries through the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Velayati termed as "fraternal" bilateral relations and said that Iran would spare no effort in establishing relations between Libya and Central Asian republics.

Talking to IRNA, Amer expressed satisfaction with his first visit to Iran and said the objective behind his visit was to follow up Tehran-Tripoli "favourable" relations and hold consultations with the Iranian officials on regional and international issues.

Amer said that Iran and Libya always enjoyed "good" relations and surely would have better ties in future.

He expressed hope that the Islamic Republic of Iran would support Libya's attempt to attain non-permanent membership in the U.N. Security Council.

Velayati Discusses Ties With Kazakh Minister

*LD2109164195 Tehran IRNA in English
1522 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Sept. 21, IRNA — Kazakh Deputy Foreign Minister Vicilav Gizatov [name as received] and Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati here Thursday [21 September] exchanged views on Iran-Kazakhstan relations, the legal regime of the Caspian Sea, cooperation between the five Caspian Sea littoral states and issues of mutual interest.

Gizatov expressed satisfaction with Iran's economic flourishing and said that in view of Kazakhstan's capital being transferred from Almaty to Akmola, many international companies were present in his country to contribute into development of the city. He called on Iran to be active in the field as well.

Moreover, the Kazakh official expressed satisfaction with bilateral relations and expressed hope that Kazakhstan's consulate office would be inaugurated in the holy city of Mashhad in northeastern Iranian Khorasan Province.

Velayati for his part called a token of "constructive and important" task the ratification of the new constitution in Kazakhstan and wished the Kazakh people progress and prosperity.

Talking to IRNA, Deputy Foreign Minister for Euro-American Affairs Mahmud Va'ezzi here Thursday termed as "very good" the outcome of his meetings with Gizatov and said the Kazakh delegation had in their visit to northern Iranian Mazandaran Province reached agreements on expansion of commercial co-operation between the province and southern Kazakh provinces.

Referring to the "good" bilateral relations, Va'ezzi said the two sides had agreed on the visit to Tehran within the next two months of the Kazakh foreign minister. The Kazakh oil minister is also scheduled to visit Iran.

Furthermore, Va'ezzi said that the Kazakh president is to arrive in Iran next spring to hold talks with his Iranian counterpart Hojatolislam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

President Rafsanjani Salutes 'Sacred' Defense Week

*LD2209105295 Tehran IRNA in English
0914 GMT 22 Sep 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Sep 22 (IRNA) — President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani Friday [22 September] said the anniversary of the outbreak of the imposed war is among the important occasions in Iran's history.

Speaking at Azadi Square at a ceremony marking the start of the Sacred Defence Week (Sept. 22-28) attended by thousands of Tehran's residents and exemplary military units, the president added, "we should not let this scarce and brilliant period of the country's history be forgotten."

Due to wrong analysis and mistaken information about Iran's conditions, the enemies committed a big blunder in 1980 (the outbreak of the imposed war) and are still tasting its bitterness, said the president.

President Rafsanjani emphasized that the enemies of the Islamic revolution believed they could have brought to its knees a country which had launched a revolution and had not yet become strong enough from military and political viewpoints. However, he added, the Iranian nation disappointed them through their decisive struggle.

The enemies did not understand the power of the people's belief which toppled a regime which was armed to its teeth, said the president adding they also did not realize that the Iranian Army was popular from the outset. Based upon their misunderstandings they made an all-out assault against Iran, the president added.

He termed the command and high knowledge of the late Imam Khomeyni and sacrifices made by the basij, military and law-enforcement forces among the main factors contributing to defusing the conspiracies hatched by the enemies.

After the then President Abol-Hasan Bani-Sadr and his followers were ousted (in 1981), political consolidation was materialized and this together with the military build-up of the country paved the way for Iran's victories at the war fronts and continued till the end of the holy defence years.

Lauding the devotion shown by the Iranian nation during the 8-year sacred defence, he said the nation with all its might stood against its enemy which was given all-out support by the whole world and created an unforgettable pattern for the people of the world.

If the history of the sacred defence is correctly presented to the world, it could be presented at world military academies, the president emphasized.

The people of the world have the right of keeping this magnificent and valuable experience in their history, said President Rafsanjani.

Elsewhere in his speech, President Rafsanjani referred to the plots hatched by the enemies after the Iraqi-imposed war and said: Unfortunately, they failed to take a sound lesson from the Iranian nation's resistance and firmness during the sacred defence era and continued their conspiracies against Iran.

He said imposition of economic sanctions against Iran by the United States was among such plots, adding that all the world were against the Iranians during the sacred defence but failed to do anything. He stressed even now such plots could not bear any fruits for the enemies.

The president termed the policy of imposing sanctions against Iran as "immature thinking" and an "ignorant policy" saying that due to reinforcement of its economic infrastructure the Islamic Republic of Iran is too strong to be harmed by such policies.

Turning to the imposition of [strengthened] U.S. economic sanctions against Iran (June 1995), he said it brought nothing but humiliation for the United States within the few months.

He described the Tuesday hijacking of an Iranian Boeing 707 airliner as a passive and foolish move which proved the regimes claiming to support human rights are themselves ringleaders of state terrorism.

The president underlined the need for the preservation of vigilance by the people and the Armed Forces vis-à-vis enemies' plots.

In another part of his speech, he said the Armed Forces could play a key role in the country's reconstruction and development in light of their high capability, facilities, and expertise.

He lauded the devotion shown by all Iranian combatants during the sacred defence era saying that the bereaved families of martyrs and war veterans were Iran's valuable "spiritual assets."

Popular forces held a march. Participating in the ceremony were military and civilian officials, foreign military attaches, and a large number of families of martyrs and war veterans.

Gulf States Said Responsible for Regional Peace

*LD2109221895 Tehran IRNA in English
2018 GMT 21 Sep 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Sept. 21, IRNA — Navy Commander 'Ali Shamkhani said on the occasion of the anniversary of the defence week here today that the Iranian Navy advocated the idea of the Persian Gulf states assuming responsibility for regional peace without the involvement of any foreign power.

He said the regional states of the Persian Gulf would do a lot better to say no to foreign powers and disengage themselves from their dictates which, he said, was leading those states headlong into an unwarranted arms race between themselves.

Shamkhani said once the Persian Gulf states opt for alternative policies independent of Washington's insinuations, they would obviously be able to allocate their present military expenditures to their own national development projects.

He said Iran's expenditures on her navy was a lot less than it could reasonably be with respect to the extent of her water frontiers, but that nonetheless it was capable of coping with any actual threat.

The navy commander of Iran said the Islamic Republic was committed to enlightening the regional governments about insinuations suggesting Iran's programs for developing nuclear weapons which, he said, were brought up by foreign powers, on top of them the United States, with the idea of showing those countries to be unable to guarantee peace in the Persian Gulf.

He said the Iranian navy had performed perfectly well during the war of the tankers at the Persian Gulf.

Commentary Stresses Sovereignty Over Gulf Islands

LD2109134895 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian*
1010 GMT 21 Sep 95

[Unattributed commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] Our Foreign Ministry spokesman yesterday stressed that the three islands of Abu Musa and the Greater and Lesser Tunbs in the Persian Gulf belong eternally to the Islamic Republic of Iran. He described the final statement of the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council as a repetition of baseless and divisive claims in order to divert the public opinion of the world of Islam.

The Persian Gulf Cooperation Council repeats such divisive claims at a time when the attention of the Islamic world is drawn towards the fate of the Muslim nations of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Palestine, and South Lebanon and when the sensitive Persian Gulf region is faced with epoch-making changes.

The insistence of the Islamic Republic of Iran for safeguarding the unity and territorial integrity of Iraq, and the welcome accorded by the countries of the region to this principled policy and the need for consultation and dialogue in order to prevent the plots hatched for the disintegration of Iraq, are clear signs of the readiness of the neighboring countries for solving regional problems and eliminating the consequences of the divisive colonial policies in the region.

However, it seems that some hidden hands in the region are hard at work in order to incite some countries to create distrust and suspicion in the relations between the countries of the region so that they can prevent the success of that principled policy.

While stressing the need for direct talks in order to remove misunderstandings, Iran has always called on the regional countries to engage in constructive talk and dialogue. Repeating the often tested methods for testing Tehran's resolve in implementing its sovereignty over the three Persian Gulf islands, rather than being a correct and realistic evaluation of the situation, is an attempt which is made from time to time in order to create disunity and discord in the region.

Repeating fictitious claims about the sovereignty of the three islands not only will not change Iranian sovereignty over those islands, but will merely create disunity among Muslims and will serve the interests of the foreigners in the sensitive and strategic Persian Gulf region.

By resorting to a propaganda hue and cry and unprincipled methods, some people are trying to portray the efforts which have been made in order to create an atmosphere of trust and cooperation in the region as having been unsuccessful. However, this is a known device which seems to be imposed and dictated, rather than being based on the initiative of the regional states.

Political analysts believe that emphasizing the undeniable principle of the sovereignty of the Islamic Republic of Iran over those three islands and, at the same time, the readiness of the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran to engage in dialogue and direct talks in order to remove misunderstanding with its neighbors is not a short-term and transient policy, but is rather a firm and fixed principle in Tehran regional relations. This is a principle which should also be taken into account by the regional countries in their dealings with Tehran.

Official Comments on Increase of Defense Capability

LD2109203795 *Tehran IRIB Television Second Program Network in Persian* 1800 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The managing director of the Defense Industries announced that the country's defense capability has increased since the end of the holy defense [Iraq-Iran war], and added: Simultaneous with the country's reconstruction efforts, the Defense Industries Organization has managed to replace weapons and ammunition used during the eight years of holy defense and produce various kinds of ammunition, light and heavy artillery, and anti-personnel and anti-tank mines. This sector has now reached its satisfactory capacity.

Mr. Kiani added: The organization has achieved outstanding gains in producing civilian goods, such as car parts and household goods.

Nepal

Prime Minister Names New 26-Member Cabinet

BK2209040995 *Hong Kong AFP in English*
0316 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kathmandu, Sept 20 (AFP) — Nepal's Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba has named a 26-member cabinet.

King Birendra on Friday [22 September] formally announced the new appointments which include Prakash Chandra Lohani as foreign minister, state radio said.

There are 20 ministers, one state minister and five assistant ministers with cabinet rank in the tripartite coalition government headed by Deuba's Nepali Congress (NC).

Deuba retains royal palace, defence, general administration, social welfare, environment, sports and culture portfolios.

The coalition partners are the NC, the rightist Rashtriya Prajatantra Party (RPP) and the pro-India Nepal Sadbhavana Party (NSP).

The coalition government was formed on September 12 after the three parties brought down the ruling Nepal Communist Party-United Marxist and Leninist government in a censure motion.

AFP Lists New Cabinet

BK2209042395 Hong Kong AFP in English
0318 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kathmandu, Sept 22 (AFP) — The list of the new 26-member cabinet headed by Sher Bahadur Deuba of the Nepali Congress party (NC) follows. All ministers belong to one of the three ruling coalition parties — the NC, the rightist Rashtriya Prajatantra Party (RPP) and the pro-India Nepal Sadbhavana Party (NSP).

1. Sher Bahadur Deuba — Prime minister, Defence, Royal Palace Affairs, General Administration, Women and Social Welfare, Environment, Culture, Youths and Sports

Ministers

1. Bal Bahadur Rai (NC) — Labour
2. Shekh Idris (NC) — Forest and Soil Erosion
3. Padma Sundar Lawati (RPP) — Agriculture
4. Dhundi Raj Shastri (NC) — Industry
5. Chiranjibi Wagle (NC) — Press Information and Communications
6. Bal Ram Gharti Magar (RPP) — Housing Development and Physical Planning
7. Khum Bahadur Khadka (NC) — Home
8. Govinda Raj Joshi (NC) — Education
9. Pashupati Shumsher Rana (RPP) — Water Resources
10. Chakra Prasad Banstola (NC) — Tourism and Civil Aviation
11. Prakash Chandra Lohani (RPP) — Foreign affairs
12. Ram Sharan Mahat (NC) — Finance
13. Bijaya Kumar Gachchedar (NC) — Public Works and Transport
14. Arjun Narsingh K.C. (NC) — Health
15. Fattey Singh Tharu (RPP) — Commerce
16. Bhim Bahadur Tamang (NC) — Parliamentary Affairs, Law and Justice
17. Kamal Thapa (RPP) — Local Development
18. Gajendra Narayan Singh (NSP) — Supplies
19. Buddhi Man Tamang (RPP) — Land Reforms and Management

State Ministers

1. Ram Chara Acharya (RPP) — Local Development

Assistant Ministers

1. Shanti Shumsher Rana (RPP) — Housing Development and Physical Planning
2. Prem Bahadur Bhandari (RPP) — Land Reforms and Management
3. Mahendra Raya (NC) — Agriculture
4. Serbendra Nath Shukla (RPP) — Water Resources
5. Rajib Prajuli (RPP) — Commerce

Pakistan

Officials Welcome U.S. Move on Pressler Amendment

BK2209034395 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network
in English 0300 GMT 22 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The U.S. Senate has approved an amendment in the Pressler law allowing delivery of embargoed arms worth \$368 million to Pakistan and also easing sanctions in economic and other fields.

Adopted by 55 votes against 45, the Brown Amendment is to help increase Pakistan-U.S. cooperation in economic and other fields. The amendment, sponsored by Mr. Hank Brown of the Republican Party along with two Democrats, Mr. Tom Harkin and Miss Carol Moseley-Braun, releases military equipment except 28 F-16 planes paid for by Pakistan five years ago. The Brown Amendment now authorizes President Clinton to sell the F-16 planes to a third party and return the money to Pakistan. The amendment also facilitates transfer of spares and support equipment, mainly meant for F-16 planes, which Pakistan had sent to the United States for repair or upgrade. The U.S. President has also been authorized to release the Government of Pakistan of its contractual obligation to pay for the storage cost of items purchased prior to 1 October 1990 but not delivered following invocation of the Pressler law. It opens the way for military-to-military contacts, training, and humanitarian and civic assistance projects. It provides bilateral cooperation in trade and investment, antiterrorism, antinarcotics, peacekeeping, and other multilateral operations.

The vote on the amendment is a major diplomatic breakthrough for Pakistan, which was singled out under an unprecedented country-specific American legislation to punish it for its nuclear program. The imposition of Pressler sanctions had more or less frozen Pakistan-U.S. relations for the last five years. For President Clinton, the passage of the amendment marks fulfillment of his

pledge to Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto during her visit to the United States that he would work with the Congress to undo a wrong done to Pakistan.

The Pakistan ambassador to the United States, Dr. Maleha Lodhi, has in her comments in Washington described the passage of Brown Amendment as a victory of Pakistan's principled stand, stressing the United States to pursue an even-handed policy in South Asia.

In Islamabad, a Foreign office spokesman said approval of Brown Amendment is a vindication of Pakistan's principled position. He added that there remains a number of steps in the legislative process before the resolution actually becomes an implementable law, such as conference between the two houses. But this does not detract from the strong vindication of Pakistan's principled position.

The federal minister for information and broadcasting, Mr. Khaled Ahmad Khan Kharal, has described the passage of the amendment as a major achievement in Pakistan's foreign policy. He said the remarkable results of prime minister's visit to the United States have started materializing.

Senator Interviewed on Expulsion of Afghan Envoys
BK2109140295 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1300 GMT 21 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pakistan has declared 13 Afghan diplomats working in Pakistan as persona non-grata and asked them to leave Pakistan within the next 48 hours. A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in a briefing in Islamabad today that seven of these diplomats, including the minister counselor and charge de'affaires, Mr. Mohammad Mokhtar, are from the Afghan Embassy in Islamabad. Among the remaining six, two each are from the Afghan consulates in Karachi, Quetta and Peshawar.

On Kabul regime president Rabbani's allegations of interference by Pakistan into Afghanistan's affairs, the spokesman said there are some groups in Afghanistan who are constantly trying to raise the bogey of Pakistan being behind the Taleban. However, he said, these accusations are baseless as Pakistan has always maintained a neutral stance toward the strife between various groups in Afghanistan and considered it their internal matter. We have with us in this studio Senator Shafqat Mahmud who is a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Senator, why have the relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan reached this stage?

[Mahmud] The relations have come to this pass because the Kabul regime, which is only one faction of the various groups in Afghanistan, has always misunderstood Pakistan's intentions and which are not to take any sides, on the side of any group, and as you know, about a week ago or 10 days ago, the Pakistani Embassy was attacked by a crowd...

[Correspondent, interrupting] Yes.

[Mahmud] ... and there are reasons to believe that this attack on the Pakistani Embassy was instigated by the Kabul regime. In spite of this provocation, the Government of Pakistan has taken a very graduated response and has not reacted with great deal of anger. But it was necessary that those diplomats of the Kabul regime, who are responsible for the situation reaching such a pass, be asked to leave. We have not closed down the entire Afghan Embassy, the Kabul regime's Embassy in Pakistan, although they have made it impossible for Pakistan Embassy to work over there. Only 13 diplomats of the total of 55 have been asked to leave. I think this is a very sober response; it is a response which is measured. In fact, the provocation is far greater than this.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much, senator. [end recording]

Afghan President's 'Malicious Activities' Viewed
BK2009052995 Rawalpindi JANG in Urdu 19 Sep 95 p 10

[Editorial: "Increase in Afghan President's Malicious Activities Against Pakistan"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Finding his government seriously endangered, Afghan President Borhanoddin Rabbani is now totally baffled after suffering setbacks from his political opponents and repeated defeats at the hands of the Taleban. He has thus adopted an increasingly hostile attitude towards Pakistan. Recently the Rabbani government wrote a letter to the Secretary General of the United Nations blaming Pakistan for interfering in the internal matters of Afghanistan and demanding the appointment of an inquiry committee to probe Afghan allegations of Pakistan's interference. Rabbani has once again repeated the allegation that Pakistan is providing military assistance to the Taleban and has claimed that Afghan national security officials have arrested three Pakistani spies who have allegedly confessed to carrying out operations on behalf of the government of Pakistan. These three individuals were shown on Kabul Television. These steps of Rabbani government shows its increasing malice towards Pakistan.

Afghan President Borhanoddin Rabbani, despite completing his term as president, is not ready to step down or allow the Afghan people an opportunity to use their right to veto and choose a new government. As Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said he is now a de facto president and Pakistan only recognizes him as the President of Afghanistan because he is in power. However, the Afghan youth who are fed up with the corrupt government and the never ending civil war have launched an armed struggle to bring his rule to an end. A large portion of Afghanistan has been taken away from Rabbani and his supporters. The recent capture of Herat and four other western and southern provinces of Afghanistan by the Taliban and General Dostam's supporters has confined the Rabbani government to Kabul only. It seems that his rule will last hardly a few more days while his biggest adversary, Golboddin Hekmatyar, has not yet entered the battlefield.

Rabbani has collaborated with India to strengthen and prolong his unconstitutional rule. A large number of Indian military experts, pilots, and soldiers are present in and around Kabul. Instead of finding a solution to the dispute with other Afghan groups and leaders he is making baseless allegations that Pakistan is helping and supporting certain Afghan groups. Rabbani and his associates have totally forgotten the favors that Pakistan did for them but a large majority of the Afghan people still acknowledge Pakistan's favors. Millions of Afghan refugees remain in Pakistan. Rabbani has gone so far in his activities against Pakistan that at his instigation, about four thousand Afghans attacked the embassy of Pakistan in Kabul on 6 September. They not only burnt embassy records but manhandled the embassy staff, in-

cluding the ambassador and senior officials, and caused the death of one of the embassy employees. Instead of expressing grief and apologizing, the Rabbani government blamed Pakistan and threatened to launch a missile attack against it. Pakistan has exercised extreme patience and restraint and has not taken any tough measures against the Rabbani government. Pakistan has decided to close down one of the Afghan consulates in Pakistan in view of the dubious activities of the Afghan diplomats. Though it denies all the false and baseless allegations leveled by Afghanistan, Pakistan has not taken any action against the millions of Afghan refugees or the other Afghans who are residing in Pakistan illegally. Pakistan does not want to ruin all those sacrifices it made during the Afghan jihad, simply because of the hostile attitude of a small minority of Afghan rulers. But the activities of the Rabbani government should also be checked. The government and particularly the foreign ministry of Pakistan should apprise the friendly Muslim countries and the Organization of Islamic Conference of the activities of the Afghan Government and should ask them to force the Rabbani government to let the Afghan people have a government of their own choice. In view of the tribal nature of the Afghan society, power should be shared among all the prominent groups so when a representative government comes into existence, it can solve the problems of Afghanistan and rid the country of the continuing civil war. Afghan people who have struggled for the independence of Afghanistan will continue their activities against the unrepresentative Rabbani government as long as it remains in power and Rabbani will continue blaming Pakistan for those activities.

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